



International Association of Geomorphologists

Executive Committee 2022-2026

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Third IAG Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, 14 September 2023, 9:00-13:00 (UTC+3),

IAG RCG 2023, Cappadocia, Türkiye

Minutes

1. Welcome by the President

Sunil Kumar De welcomed all EC members to the EC meeting which was held in hybrid format. The President thanked all EC members for their valuable efforts and work for the IAG. The President asked for a minute of silence in memory and honour of Mateo Gutiérrez who sadly passed away on 9 September 2023.

2. Overview of presence and absence

Achim A. Beylich informed about presence and absence of EC members. Present in-person: Andrea Coronato, Mihai Micu, Takashi Oguchi, Achim A. Beylich, Narges Kariminejad, Efthimios Karymbalis, Cengiz Yildirim; present virtually: Sunil Kumar De, Katja Laute, Anita Bernatek-Jakiel; absent: Francisco Gutierrez, Timothy Beach, Susan Conway, Ghislain Zangmo Tefogom, Samuel McColl.

3. Organization and management of the RCG 2023, Cappadocia

Cengiz Yildirim provided information on key facts of the conference. The conference included 3 keynote lectures, 14 thematic sessions, 104 oral presentations and 52 poster presentations. The number of registered conference participants was 150, with 25 different countries being represented. The pre-conference field trip was attended by 29 participants and the total number of participants for the 4 post-conference field trips was 100. The Intensive Training Course had 20 participants and the final number of IAG grant holders was 10. The EC expressed its appreciation to the Chief Organiser of the IAG RCG 2023, Cengiz Yildirim, and the President of the Turkish Society of Geomorphologists for organizing the conference in a befitting manner.

4. Report of the Treasurer

Achim A. Beylich presented the report of the Treasurer on behalf of Francisco Gutierrez. The new Executive Committee of the IAG was registered in the Spanish Registry of Associations (managed by the company Feliu and approved on 23 May 2023). Thanks to this administrative step, the IAG Treasurer was able to get access and start managing the IAG account at Bankinter. Bankinter provided new credentials and a VISA card for payments. In May 2023, the previous Treasurer Emmanuel Reynard sent to the new Treasurer a data base and a number of documents from the previous term. The evolution of the IAG account balance was summarized as follows: 2017-2021: apparent general increasing trend (2019 final transfers from the earlier account managed by Morgan De Dapper in Belgium), 2021-2022: ca. 30% drop due to the NSM fee exemption in 2022 (Covid pandemic), 2022-2023: significant recovery due to revenues from the ICG in Coimbra generously granted by the Portuguese Association of Geomorphologists.

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IAG account (Bankinter) IBAN: ES19-0128-0409-7701-0002-8064 / SWIFT Code: BKBKESMMXXX
www.geomorph.org



International Association of Geomorphologists

The record of the transactions of the IAG account in 2022, together with the corresponding documentary evidence was sent to the company Feliu. The 2022 tax declaration, with 0 result (no need to pay), was presented to the Spanish Tax Agency.

The 2023 annual fees were requested to the IAG NSMs in June 2023.

5. Report on IAG NSMs

Updates on new members and possible new membership fees

Mihai Micu reported on NSM-related issues and on progress made since the last EC meeting in April 2023. With Egypt and Mongolia two new NSMs had been approved. During the EC meeting the documentation of two newly established NSMs, the Association of Geomorphologists of Mali and Burkina (AGMB) and the Madagascar Association of Geomorphologists (AGMAD) were evaluated and discussed, and both NSM proposals were approved (fee exempted) by the EC. After these new approvals, the number of active IAG NSMs has increased to 59 individual countries and 4 regional associations. In addition, ongoing discussions are held with Malaysia (the official documents are currently being sent and reviewed) and Afghanistan. For further development, a database with potential contacts is being constructed, currently comprising 61 persons from Algeria, Morocco, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Paraguay, Uruguay and Tunisia. A longer discussion was held within the EC on the potential increase or revision of the NSM annual membership fees. Several possible ways to increase the IAG NSMs membership fees were prospected, and it was decided to put forward this issue for discussion in the IAG Council meeting on 14 September 2023.

Information and updates on NSM-related activities and initiatives

Mihai Micu provided updated information on the initiatives “IAG Geomorphological Picture and Video of the Month and IAG Virtual Memory Book” and “IAG No Frontiers for Geomorphology World Tour”. The defined purpose of the first initiative (coordinators: Mihai Micu, Susan Conway, Piotr Migon, Katja Laute) is not only to better involve NSMs but also to serve for the improved visibility of geomorphology in the public, as it could provide valuable resources for people involved in research, education, civil society and other authorities. A work plan and timeline have been established and will be presented to the IAG Council, together with an invitation to join this activity. In addition, a database with potential interviews has been compiled, including 23 persons (past Presidents and Honorary Fellows).

The initiative “IAG No Frontiers for Geomorphology World Tour” (promoters: Mihai Micu and Florin Tatui) shall strengthen the collaborative environment within the IAG. This envisaged field trip around the world, linking in autumn 2025 – spring 2026 preferably all IAG NSMs, will focus on promoting the importance of geomorphic research and service to nature and society. After active involvement of NSMs, a core organizing committee will be formed and external support will be prospected.

6. Report on Working Groups

Andrea Coronato provided updated information on IAG Working Groups. Since September 2022 there have been 16 Working Groups in action. 13 of them continue their work from the past period (2017-2022) and 3 newly started in September 2022.

A new WG proposal (DELTAS) was received on 11 September 2023. This new WG is proposed by Prof. Guilherme Fernandez (Brazil), Prof. Subhamita Chaudhuri (India) and Prof. Sayantan Das (India). The defined aims of this WG are (i) to form an international network of delta scientists to collaborate, exchange ideas and develop new methodologies related to delta geomorphology, (ii) to organise online international meetings, virtual training, and field courses on delta geomorphology every year, (iii) to collaborate with other IAG working groups like IAG GEOMHAZ, Advancing Theory and Modeling of River Systems, and Urban Geomorphology.

Following discussions within the EC the proposed new WG was approved by the EC.



International Association of Geomorphologists

All IAG WGs have been following the request to report on their activities, most of them using the recently developed Google Form doc, others using word documents but following the four requested items in the form. In the WG “Planetary Geomorphology” Roelofs Lonneke (The Netherlands) took over the role of chairman replacing Frances Butcher. The new information has been updated on the IAG website with the collaboration of Susan Conway and Meven Philippe. It was pointed out during the EC meeting that some of the WG websites need to be updated so that the actual websites are adjusted to the information provided in the annual reports. Until now no seed money claim form has been requested by any of the WGs.

7. Communication, Cooperation and Outreach, including International Geodiversity Day 2023, International Geomorphology Week 2024, possible MoU with INQUA, and collaboration with Geomorphica, IUGS, AGU and GSA

Takashi Oguchi provided updated information on various communication, cooperation and outreach activities. (i) International Geodiversity Day 2023: As decided during the EC meeting in April 2023, a webinar celebrating the International Geodiversity Day 2023 will be organized on 16 October 2023. The theme of the IAG International Geodiversity Webinar 2023 will be on Geomorphological Diversity of the IUGS Geological Heritage Sites. Invited speakers will be Piotr Migon (Poland), Paola Coratza (Italy) and Andrew Goudie (UK), and the webinar will be convened by Zbigniew Zwolinski (Poland), Ghislain Zangmo Tefogoum (Cameroon) and Takashi Oguchi (Japan). (ii) International Geomorphology Week 2024: As decided during the EC meeting in April 2023, IAG will organize again a number of webinars during the International Geomorphology Week in March 2024 (including also again the Women in Geomorphology webinar). Details will be discussed online, mainly in October and November 2023. Possible issues for discussion will be how to attract participants in the post-COVID environment, the division of regions, and the languages to be used. (iii) Collaboration with Geomorphica: The diamond open-access journal on geomorphology, Geomorphica, was launched in April 2023. It was earlier decided to provide financial support of 700 Euros annually for this journal until 2025. It was discussed within the EC if the journal actually reflects the IAG policy of internationalism in a sufficient way. Takashi Oguchi will contact the journal suggesting a more international composition of the journal editorial board. (iv) Possible MoU with INQUA: During the INQUA Conference in Rome in July 2023, Takashi Oguchi communicated with the newly elected INQUA President, Laura Sadori (Italy), to restart communication for a possible MoU between IAG and INQUA. Laura Sadori suggested communication between the Secretary Generals of IAG and INQUA to start the discussion, and Achim A. Beylich will soon be in contact with the Secretary General of INQUA. (v) Cooperation with IUGS: Three geomorphological sites were included in the First IUGS 100 Geological Heritage Sites after nominations by our IAG colleagues. In 2022, two more geomorphological sites were nominated (Dartmoor, nominated by Piotr Migon, and Mackenzie Delta, nominated by Zbigniew Zwolinski). Recently, five sites more have been nominated. (vi) Collaborations with other international bodies: The new interactions with AGU and GSA in late 2022 and early 2023 were summarized in the minutes of the EC meeting in April 2023. However, there have been no new developments since April 2023 and concrete collaborations have not been realized. It was decided by the EC to follow up on this by getting again in contact with our contact persons at AGU and GSA.

8. Request from Elsevier regarding a potential journal launch with IAG

Achim A. Beylich informed the EC about a request from Elsevier about the possibility of proposing a gold open-access journal affiliated with IAG. The potential new journal would include the IAG logo and could contribute to possible financial incomes for the IAG. The potential journal launch requires a proposal which details the title, aims and scope of the potential new journal, includes comparisons with competitive journals, information on editorship and further information.



International Association of Geomorphologists

IAG will be free in the suggestion of the journal title and scope and in the composition of the potential editorial board. After discussion in the EC, it was decided that IAG will prepare a proposal for such a potential IAG affiliated gold open-access journal.

It was decided that Achim A. Beylich, Takashi Oguchi, Katja Laute and Mihai Micu will work on the development of this journal proposal.

9. IAG Highlights

Katja Laute informed the EC about the latest issues of the IAG Highlights and invited all EC members to send contributions for the forthcoming issues.

10. IAG Website (including email-addresses at the website, security)

During the EC meeting it was pointed out that the IAG website needs a number of updates. In addition, it was discussed if email-addresses available at the website should be removed for security reasons (misuse of email addresses for spam and phishing emails). After discussion it was decided to keep the email addresses on the website and to place a disclaimer on the website and on official IAG emails indicating (in reference to the numerous spam and phishing emails that have been sent on behalf of the IAG) that IAG will never ask for such kind of financial support or help as written in the spam and phishing emails).

It was pointed out that the existing IAG Executive Committee poster should be updated.

11. IAG Training Programme, including improved dissemination of IAG grant opportunities through NSMs and Geomorph-L, IAG Young Geomorphologists' Alumni List, a new document with evaluation criteria for grant evaluations, the request from BSG regarding IAG grants supporting Young Geomorphologists for attending the Windsor workshop, and the proposal by Ciro Cerrone for the Italian Young Geomorphologists' Days (Venice, Italy; February/March 2024)

Efthimios Karymbalis and Anita Bernatek-Jakiel reported to the EC about activities of the IAG Training Programme. IAG Grants: Since the establishment of the 2022-2026 EC the IAG has assigned 19 grants favouring the participation of YGs from 9 countries (Argentina, Brazil, Croatia, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Poland, Norway) to the following recurrent or occasional scientific events on Geomorphology: the 2023 Regional Conference on Geomorphology, Cappadocia, Türkiye, 12-14 September 2023 (10 grants), the 14th SINAGEO – the National Symposium of Geomorphology in Brazil, Corumba, Brazil, 24-30 August 2023 (2 grants), the Permafrost Young Researchers Network (PYRN) Workshop at the 6th European Conference on Permafrost (EUCOP 2023), Puigcerda, Spain, 18-22 June 2023 (2 grants), the European Meeting of Young Geomorphologists, Chamonix-Mont-Blanc, France, 9-11 June 2023 (1 grant), the 3rd IAG DENUCHANGE Working Group Workshop, Haifa, Israel, 13-16 March 2023 (2 grants), the BSG Post-Graduate Training Workshop, Windsor, UK, 5-8 December 2022 (2 grants). In addition, IAG financial support for the following YGs' training activities was provided: Intensive Training Programme for the YGs, 35th Indian Institute of Geomorphologists Conference (IGI), New Delhi, India, 25-27 November 2023 (700 Euros), YGs Training Programme within the activities of the SAAG2023, biennial Conference of the Southern African Association of Geomorphologists (SAAG), Hogsback, Eastern Cape, South Africa, 28-30 September 2023 (700 Euros).

YGs groups: The official YG Group of Croatia was established in 2022.

The IAG Alumni database was updated. It includes now the record of all the YGs granted since the beginning of the IAG Training Programme (2002-2023). All grant holders since 2002 with information on their country of residence and attended event are available at

<http://www.geomorph.org/alumni-list/>.

The dissemination of IAG grant opportunities has been enhanced through email communications to the NSMs, spreading the grant calls via IAG website, Geomorph-list and Gilbert Club, and publishing the IAG YGs' Alumni List.



International Association of Geomorphologists

During the EC meeting it was proposed to develop specific criteria for the assessment of grant applications. It was stated that IAG should make the assessment criteria public and clearly defined so that the assessments could become more transparent and objective. A number of selected criteria was presented and discussed. The decision on the final criteria should be made by the EC after further discussions.

Following a request of the BSG and discussions within the EC, it was decided by the EC that IAG will provide 3 grants of 300 Euros for PhD students from Europe (outside the UK) for attending the Windsor Workshop, 4-7 December 2023.

Referring to a proposal from the Italian Young Geomorphologists Coordinators (AlGeo), organising the Young Geomorphologists Days (IYGD) 2024 in Venice (around February and March 2024), it was discussed and decided within the EC that IAG will, in addition to the auspices that was already decided on earlier, provide three grants for YGs attending this event. The 3 grants shall be composed of one grant of 300 Euros (for YGs from Europe outside Italy) and 2 grants of 450 Euros (for YGs from outside Europe) provided for applicants from countries without active YG groups. It was suggested that the Young Geomorphologists Day (IYGD) event could eventually cover one of the regional webinars organised during the International Geomorphology Week 2024 (see point 7).

12. Co-opted EC Member for contacts with North and South American countries

The given situation with our current co-opted EC member for contacts with North and South American countries was discussed. It was accepted that the co-opter role for South America will continue to be in charge of the Vice President Andrea Coronato (Argentina). Given that Timothy Beach (USA) has not been responsive during the past months it was decided that it will be appropriate to un-invite him and to find a new co-opted member for replacing him.

13. Information on progress regarding the IAG affiliation with International Science Council (ISC)

Sunil Kumar De informed the EC about a proposal submitted to the International Science Council (ISC), asking for Full Membership (Category 1, defined as scientific unions, associations and similar bodies, being international scientific organizations devoted to the practice and promotion of specific scientific disciplines or areas) of the IAG in ISC. The proposal was prepared by Mihai Micu, Katja Laute and Susan Conway and had been sent to the EC for commenting. A virtual meeting with representatives of the ISC is held on 19 September 2023.

14. Information on progress regarding the RCG 2025 in Romania, including the introduction of the EC Special Portfolio Member being in charge with the RCG 2025

Mihai Micu and Florin Tatui informed the EC about progress regarding the RCG 2025 in Romania. The conference will take place in Timisoara in September 2025. The conference website with further details will soon be available. Florin Tatui (Faculty of Geography, University of Bucharest), President of the Romanian Association of Geomorphologists (RAG), was introduced as the EC Special Portfolio Member being in charge with the RCG 2025 and was welcomed by the EC. Information on Florin Tatui shall soon be added to the IAG website.

15. Update on the ICG in Christchurch, New Zealand, 9-13 February 2026

Achim A. Beylich presented on behalf of Samuel McColl updated information on the 11th ICG in Christchurch, New Zealand. The confirmed conference dates are 9-13 February 2026 and the conference venue has been booked. However, the venue agreement and deposit are not yet signed by the University of Canterbury (underwriter) as the financial liability is larger than anticipated. Samuel McColl has sent specific questions regarding this point to the EC for discussion and clarification.

The conference website is available at icg2026.org.nz. A professional conference organiser has signed up and 50.000 Dollar sponsorship have been confirmed by Tourism NZ. The focus of the next 6 months will be on signing the venue agreement, sponsorship, and starting the planning of the science programme, including workshop.



International Association of Geomorphologists

16. Any other business

Sunil Kumar De informed the EC about a planned publication led by Piotr Migon in the journal Earth Surface Processes and Landforms (ESPL). Following discussions between Piotr Migon and Stuart Lane (Editor-in-Chief of ESPL) the publication will give an overview of the roots and history of the IAG.

Sunil Kumar De informed the EC about two advertised positions for the Deep-time Digital Earth (DDE) Secretariat. Both positions will be located in the DDE Big Science Program Secretariat in Kunshan City, Suzhou, China. Further information can be found at www.deep-time.org.

IAG President
Sunil Kumar De

IAG Secretary-General
Achim A. Beylich

Date: 13 October 2023