

International Hydrological Programme

23rd session of the Intergovernmental Council
(Paris, 11-15 June 2018)

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS AT UNESCO

Item 4.1, 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7 of the provisional agenda.

Summary

This document summarizes several IHP relevant institutional and programmatic aspects since the 22nd session of the IHP Council, in particular:

- Developments at the Natural Sciences Sector and the Division of Water Sciences following the 200th, 201st, 202nd and 203rd sessions of the Executive Board, and the 39th session of the General Conference, including the Programme and Budget for 2018-2019 (39 C/5)
- The report of IHP related extrabudgetary activities
- The report of IHP Finance Committee
- The report of the IHP Communication and Outreach Committee

DEVELOPMENTS AT THE DIVISION OF WATER SCIENCES FOLLOWING THE 200TH, 201ST AND 202ND SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, INCLUDING THE PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2018-2019 ([39 C/5](#)) (Agenda sub-item 4.1)

1. This section contains the issues of relevance to UNESCO's water programmes in connection with the 200th (4 to 18 October 2016), 201st (19 April 2017 to 5 May 2017), 202nd (4 to 18 October 2017) and 203rd (16 November 2017) sessions of the Executive Board, and of the 39th session of the General Conference, including the Programme and Budget for 2018-2019 ([39 C/5](#)).

Decisions of the 200th session of the Executive Board

2. The proposal for the establishment of the International Centre for Water Security and Sustainable Management (i-WSSM) as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2). in Daejeon, Republic of Korea, at the K-Water Institute was approved, noting the deviations of the draft agreement (200 [EX/12 Add.](#)) from the model agreement for institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO. The Board authorized the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.

3. The Executive Board further decided to renew the designation of the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) until 31 December 2021 and authorized the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement.

4. The Government of Netherlands requested the withdrawal of a scheduled item on UNESCO IHE at the Executive Board. Following the expiration of the Agreement for the operation of UNESCO-IHE as a Category 1 Institute on 31 December 2016, UNESCO and IHE in The Netherlands entered into a Partnership Agreement running from 1 January 2017 and until 30 June 2018. In the meantime, procedures to establish IHE as a Category 2 Institute under the auspices of UNESCO were initiated.

5. The Executive Board, requested the Director-General to take all necessary measures to support the establishment of a Special Account for the International Hydrological Programme (IHP), so as to enable it to receive the financial assistance it needs to meet the demands of Member States, mainly in the field of capacity-building activities and the activities approved under the strategic plan for the eighth phase of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP-VIII).

6. It further requested the Director-General to submit at the 201st session a report regarding IHP contributions the implementation of the outcomes of the twenty-first and twenty-second sessions of the Conference of the Parties (COP 21 and COP 22) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), as appropriate.

7. Documents [200 EX/30](#); [200 EX/DG.INF](#); [200 EX/36](#) discussed the contribution of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) to the preparations for and follow-up to the 22nd Conference of Parties (COP 22) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) that prompted the decision in the previous paragraph.

8. Document [200 EX/5 Part I \(C\)](#) mentions IHP for its management of GEF-funded important portfolios of programmes and its full engagement in the implementation of UNESCO's Climate Change Strategy, as well as its work on Climate Change and in Africa.

201st session of the Executive Board (19 April -1 May)

9. In accordance with [Decision 200 EX/Dec.30](#), the Director-General presented a report on UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme's (IHP) involvement at the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties (COP22) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) that took place in Morocco 7-18 November 2016
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10. It also reports on the establishment of an IHP special account ([document 201 EX/5 Part I \(D\)](#)). This document also calls on Member States to make voluntary financial and in-kind contributions to support the UNESCO-IHP work on climate change and water resources management and invites the Director-General to report to the Board at its 204th session on the follow-up of IHP on COP21 and COP22, and its involvement in the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties (COP23) to be held 13-14 November 2017 in Bonn, Germany.

Decisions of the 202nd session of the Executive Board

11. Among the decisions taken by the Executive Board during its 202nd session¹ was the approval of the proposals for the establishment of two Category 2 Centers: the Regional Centre on Water Security (CERSHI; Mexico) and the Institute for Water Education (IHE-Delft; the Netherlands) and the recommendation that the General Conference approves them at its 39th session. The Executive Board further decided to renew the designation of the International Centre on Space Technologies for Natural and Cultural Heritage (HIST; China) and the Regional Centre on Urban Water Management (RCUWM; Islamic Republic of Iran) as centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) and authorized the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreements.

12. The Board decided to propose to the General Conference to create a Main Line of Action 3 as follows: "Improving knowledge and strengthening capacities at all levels to achieve water security" with two expected results (ER): ER7, "Member States have strengthened their response to water security challenges towards the achievement of water-related SDGs and targets, and other targets from relevant international water agendas"; and ER8, "Member States have improved policies and increased institutional and human capacities for water security through scientific cooperation". The EXB recommended to the General Conference to request the Director-General to ensure that the budget allocated to the MLA equals to the budget allocated to expected result (4) under main line of action 2 of Major Programme II as presented on the document (see [202 EX/Decisions](#)); the Executive Board recommended that all Performance Indicators related to the IHP become gender-responsive from gender-sensitive.

13. Within document [202 EX/5, Part I \(G\)](#), the Executive Board made reference to IHP's efforts in supporting the management of Iraq's natural resources in identifying groundwater resources, providing decision making tools (standardized cartographic products and drilling handbook) and capacity building for key areas of professional water sector responsibilities.

Decisions of the 203rd session of the Executive Board

14. No items related to IHP were examined during the 203rd session of the Executive Board

¹ <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0025/002598/259824e.pdf>

Decisions of the 39th Session of the General Conference (GC)

15. The General Conference, elected the following Member States to be integrated to the Intergovernmental Council until the end of the 41st session of the General Conference: Chile, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Libya, Netherlands, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zambia. These Member States replaced those elected at the 37th session of the General Conference and whose term of office expired at the end of the 39th session. The Member States elected at the 38th session of the General Conference in 2015, and whose term of office will expire at the end of the 40th session of the General Conference in 2019, are: Argentina, Austria, Cuba, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Hungary, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sudan, Switzerland and Tunisia.

16. The 39th GC further approved the proposal of the 202nd EXB session on the establishment of a separate MLA on water and the two related expected results and requested the Director-General to report periodically to the governing bodies, in the statutory reports, on the execution of the programme adopted by the General Conference and the achievement of the following expected results related to IHP:

17. In particular, MS approved main line of action 3: Improving knowledge and strengthening capacities at all levels to achieve water security (7) Member States have strengthened their response to water security challenges towards the achievement of water-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets, and other targets from relevant international water agendas; (8) Member States have improved policies and increased institutional and human capacities for water security through scientific cooperation.

18. Finally, the GC approved, and authorized the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreement for the establishment of the Regional Centre on water security, hosted by the Institute of Engineering of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (II-UNAM) and the Mexican Institute of Water Technology (IMTA), in Mexico City, Mexico; and the establishment in the Netherlands of the Institute for Water Education (IHE-Delft) as an institute under the auspices of UNESCO)

Developments at the Natural Sciences Sector and Division of Water Sciences

19. Regarding its staffing, the Division was reinforced with an additional P4 post at HQ, one secondment, two loaned professionals and one extrabudgetary post. Currently the Division at its HQ in Paris counts one D1 post, ten professionals posts (three P5, three P4, one P3 and three P2 posts), four assistants posts, three extrabudgetary posts (one P2 and one P3 posts in Paris and one P4 in Brussels), one secondment (P5) and two loans (one P3 and one P4) from the Republic of Korea (RoK), excluding vacancies (one P3 post, which will be opened for recruitment). One additional loans (P3) from RoK is expected in July 2018. The post of the Regional Hydrologists have been placed in Cairo (P5), Jakarta (P5), Nairobi (P5), and Montevideo (P4). It needs to be noted that the posts for the regional hydrologists in Cairo, Jakarta, Nairobi have been transformed to accommodate tasks beyond these of water encompassing the Man An Biosphere programme (MAB). The post of the Venice Office, which is a science post integrating tasks for a regional hydrologist, is currently at the final stage of the recruitment.

20. In addition within HYD, the World water Assessment Programme counts for a D1 post, one P5, one P4, one P2 on extrabudgetary funds. All these posts but a P4 are based in Perugia.

IHP RELATED EXTRABUDGETARY ACTIVITIES (Agenda item 4.5)

21. IHP extrabudgetary activities and projects are summarized below, representing a total of approximately USD 37.2 million over the different executing periods (not limited to the June 2016 to June 2018 reporting period). Out of 36 extrabudgetary projects, 27 are ongoing (representing an amount of USD 27.9 million).

22. The Government of Italy has been generously financing WWAP since 2007, with a total contribution of USD 22.2 million until 2016. WWAP has also received contributions from other partners as project-based funding.

23. It must be noted that the Division of Water Sciences has developed a fundraising strategy with the Global Environment Facility (GEF). It is anticipated that IHP may obtain approximately USD 15 million in extrabudgetary projects from the GEF for the next 6 years. At the same time, the cooperation with the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transportation (MOLIT) and K-Water of the Republic of Korea has been increasing and has resulted in extrabudgetary resources representing approximately USD 3.7 million, the secondment of a P5 and the loan of three professionals (two P3s and on P4). The water science division has been engaged with EU through JRC and DEVCO with the ongoing support for the NEPAD water centres of excellence in Africa and for potential other supports.

24. Among the major donors to IHP (excluding institutes and centres) are the Belgium – Government of Flanders, Brazil, the European Union (EU), Global Environment Facility (GEF), Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

25. The table below summarizes the funds received by ER, donor and period of execution.

| <u>ER 7: Member States have strengthened their response to water security challenges towards the achievement of water-related SDGs and targets, and other targets from relevant international water agendas</u> | | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Theme 1: Water-related disasters and hydrological changes | | | | |
| <i>Project title</i> | <i>Funding agency</i> | <i>Executing agency</i> | <i>Period of execution</i> | <i>Amount (USD)</i> |
| The impact of glacier retreat in the Andes: International Multidisciplinary Network for Adaptation Strategies | Belgium - Government of Flanders | IHP | 2012-2018 | \$ 440,000 |
| Addressing Water Security: Climate Impacts and Adaptation Responses in Africa, Asia and LAC | Belgium - Government of Flanders | IHP | 2014-2018 | \$ 661,895 |
| African Drought Early Warning System Expansion to Southern Africa | Sweden - Sida | IHP | 2014-2017 | \$ 261,498 |

| | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Strategic Strengthening of Flood Warning and Management Capacity : Phase 2 | Japan – Ministry of Foreign Affairs | UNESCO Office in Jakarta | 2015-2018 | \$ 4,071,404 |
| Needs assessment for Climate Services for improved Water Resources Management in vulnerable regions to Southern Africa | Government of Flanders | IHP | 2016-2017 | \$ 50,000 |
| Enhancing Climate Services for Improved Water Resources Management in Vulnerable Regions to Climate Change: Case studies from Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean (ClimWaR) | Government of Flanders | IHP | 2017-2019 | \$ 641,296 |
| Theme 2: Groundwater in a changing environment | | | | |
| <i>Project title</i> | <i>Funding agency</i> | <i>Executing agency</i> | <i>Period of execution</i> | <i>Amount (USD)</i> |
| Advanced Survey of Hydrogeological Resources in Iraq - Phase II (ASHRI-2) | European Union (EU) | UNESCO Office in Baghdad | 2013-2018 | \$ 6,784,260 |
| Governance of Groundwater Resources in Transboundary Aquifers (GGRETA) - Phase 2 | Switzerland – Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) | IHP | 2016-2018 | \$ 1,895,162 |
| Enabling implementation of the Regional SAP for the rational and equitable management of the Nubian Sandstone Aquifer System (NSAS) (Preparation Phase) | GEF | IHP | 2017-2018 | \$ 150,000 |
| GEF International Waters: Learning Exchange And Resources Network (IW:LEARN) 4th Phase | GEF | IHP and IOC | 2015-2019 | \$ 250,000 |
| MedProgramme: Mediterranean Sea Program - Strategic actions for the protection of Mediterranean coastal aquifers | GEF | IHP | 2017-2018 | \$ 40,000 |
| Implementation of the SAP of the Dinaric Karst Aquifer System: Improving Groundwater Governance and Sustainability of Related Ecosystems (Preparation Phase) | GEF | IHP | 2018-2019 | \$ 150,000 |
| Strengthening the institutional capacity of African Network of Basin Organization (ANBO), contributing to the improved transboundary water governance in Africa | UNDP | IHP | 2018-2020 | \$ 360,000 |
| Fostering multi-country cooperation over conjunctive surface and groundwater management in the Bug and Neman Transboundary River Basins and the underlying aquifer systems (Preparation Phase) | GEF | IHP | 2017-2018 | \$ 100,000 |
| Theme 3: Addressing water scarcity and quality | | | | |

| <i>Project title</i> | <i>Funding agency</i> | <i>Executing agency</i> | <i>Period of execution</i> | <i>Amount (USD)</i> |
|--|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Coping with Water Scarcity in the Arab Region | Multi-donor special account | UNESCO Office in Cairo | 2014-2017 | \$ 125,000 |
| Emerging Pollutants in Wastewater Reuse | Sweden - Sida | IHP | 2014-2018 | \$ 527,415 |
| Safeguarding Applied Management of Water Resources (SAMoWaR) in the autonomous Kurdistan region of Iraq | Switzerland - Department of Foreign Affairs | UNESCO Office in Baghdad | 2016-2018 | \$ 1,042,000 |
| Strengthening the work of the Brazilian National Water Agency (ANA) and of the Brazilian Water Sector organizations in the preparatory actions for the 8th World Water Forum | Brazil (Government) - National Water Agency (ANA) | UNESCO Office in Brasilia | 2016-2018 | \$ 921,573 |
| Theme 4: Water and human settlements of the future | | | | |
| <i>Project title</i> | <i>Funding agency</i> | <i>Executing agency</i> | <i>Period of execution</i> | <i>Amount (USD)</i> |
| Global Water Pathogen Project | The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation | IHP | 2015-2018 | \$ 300,000 |
| Development of Studies on Water Resources and Basic Sanitation Regulation and Institutional Organization of ADASA | Brazil (Government) - Water, Energy and Basic Sanitation Regulatory Agency of Brazil's Federal District (ADASA) | UNESCO Office in Brasilia | 2009-2017 | \$ 4,179,329 |
| Sustainable Water Security for Human Settlements in Developing Countries under Climate Change | Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transportation (MOLIT) of RoK | IHP | 2017-2026 | \$ 3,130,000 |
| Senior Programme Specialist (P5) Secondment to Hydrology Division | Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transportation (MOLIT) of RoK | IHP | 2018-2019 | \$ 516,000 |
| Theme 5: Ecohydrology, engineering harmony for a sustainable world | | | | |
| <i>Project title</i> | <i>Funding agency</i> | <i>Executing agency</i> | <i>Period of execution</i> | <i>Amount (USD)</i> |

| | | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Ecological and Eco-hydrological Solutions for Sustainable Management in Indonesia and Asia Pacific Region | Indonesia | UNESCO Office in Jakarta | 2014-2017 | \$ 475,000 |
| Upscaling Water Security to Meet Local, Regional, and Global Challenges | Malaysia | UNESCO Office in Jakarta | 2014-2017 | \$ 476,219 |
| Strengthening UNESCO Green Academy and Lake Tana Biosphere Reserve | Multi-donor special account | UNESCO Office in Addis Ababa | 2015-2018 | \$ 30,000 |
| Theme 6: Water education, the key for water security | | | | |
| <i>Project title</i> | <i>Funding agency</i> | <i>Executing agency</i> | <i>Period of execution</i> | <i>Amount (USD)</i> |
| Strengthening of capacities on water governance and sustainable management of freshwater in LAC | Spain - AECID | UNESCO Office in Montevideo | 2015-2018 | \$ 450,000 |
| <u>ER 8: Member States have improved policies and increased institutional and human capacities for water security through scientific cooperation</u> | | | | |
| <i>Project title</i> | <i>Funding agency</i> | <i>Executing agency</i> | <i>Period of execution</i> | <i>Amount (USD)</i> |
| International Hydrological Programme – Water Interoperability Networks for Global Change Adaptation (WINGA – ASPAC) | Japan – Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology | UNESCO Office in Jakarta | 2009-2017 | \$ 1,035,216 |
| IHP-WISER in AP International Hydrological Programme Water Informatics for Sustainability and Enhanced Resilience in Asia and the Pacific | Government - Japan - Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology | UNESCO Office in Jakarta | 2016-2019 | \$ 371,954 |
| Support for the technical and institutional preparation of ADASA for the 8th World Water Forum 8th World Water Forum, Brasilia, 2018 | Brazil (Government) - Water, Energy and Basic Sanitation Regulatory Agency of Brazil's Federal District (ADASA) | UNESCO Office in Brasilia | 2016-2020 | \$ 4,935,065 |

| | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| UN Water activities implemented by UNESCO - GEMI initiative | UNOPS | IHP | 2010-2018 | \$ 204,000 |
| South-South Cooperation to Strengthen the Integrated Management and Sustainable Use of Water Resources in the Context of Latin America and the Caribbean, and of the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) | Brazil (Government) - National Water Agency (ANA) | UNESCO Office in Brasilia | 2014-2017 | \$ 3,587,596 |
| FREEWAT: Free and Open Source Software Tools for Water Resources Management | Multilateral - European Union (EU) | IHP | 2015-2017 | \$ 82,244 |
| Capacity building for sustainable water management in Uzbekistan | UNDP | UNESCO Office in Tashkent | 2017-2018 | \$ 143,380 |
| NEPAD African Network of Centres of Excellence on Water Sciences and Technology | Multilateral - European Union (EU) - Joint Research Centre | IHP | 2016-2019 | \$ 2,441,736 |

REPORT OF THE IHP FINANCE COMMITTEE (Agenda sub-item 4.6)

26. The present report recalls the financial information provided from the last IHP Council (June 2016) presented at the 55th and 56th Bureau meetings, held in June 2017 and February 2018 respectively, and takes into consideration the budgetary period 2016-2017 (38 C/5) and funds allocated and reported for activities under expected result 10 and 11 (ER 10, ER 11). In November 2015, UNESCO's General Conference approved the Programme and Budget for 2016-2017 (38 C/5) and endorsed an Implementation and Expenditure Plan based on the expected cash flow for the biennium, the ceiling of which was set at USD 518 Million. in light of a budgetary prioritization exercise led by Member States, freshwater-related Main Line of Action 6 was granted approximately USD 14 million (USD 13,973,100). The report also recalls the available funds allocated for activities under expected result 10 and 11 (ER 10, ER 11) for 2017 only, presented at the 55th and 56th IHP Bureau meetings. The results of the budget cuts of 70% of the remaining funds as per end of June 2017, occurred under the contingency plan during July 2017, are also reported as well as the financial situation regarding the current biennium 2018-2019 (39 C/5) and allocation to Main Line of Action 3, under expected results 7 and 8 (ER 7, ER 8).

27. As to the budget figures, the table below contains information on the budget allocation for UNESCO's IHP related Main Line of Action 6 under the Income and Expenditure Plan for 2016-2017. Numbers are given at the level of Expected Results 10 and 11 and are broken down by operational and staff costs, as well as by allocations to headquarters and the field. In terms of staff allocation, out of US\$ 9.5 million for MLA 6, 59% were spent at headquarters and 41% in the field network. As to the allocation to operational activities (corresponding to USD approximately 4 million for MLA 6), the ratio between headquarters and field is 53% to 47%. Operational activities account for approximately 30% of the total.

| MLA 6 38 C/5 | OPERATIONAL | | | | STAFF | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----|
| | ER10 | ER11 | MLA 6 | % | ER10 | ER11 | MLA 6 | % |
| Headquarters | 1,370,100 | 730,400 | 2,100,500 | 53 | 4,263,500 | 1,377,000 | 5,640,500 | 59 |
| Field Offices | 1,333,000 | 547,400 | 1,880,400 | 47 | 3,011,700 | 857,200 | 3,868,900 | 41 |
| Sub-total | 2,703,100 | 1,277,800 | 3,980,900 | 100 | 7,275,200 | 2,234,200 | 9,509,400 | 100 |
| Indirect costs* | 357,200 | 125,600 | 482,800 | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 3,060,300 | 1,403,400 | 4,463,700 | | 7,275,200 | 2,234,200 | 9,509,400 | |

* Includes contributions towards evaluation, publication, One UN, communication, house-wide cost sharing for maintenance, IT licenses and common operating costs.

28. As requested by the Council at its 22nd session (2016), information was sought on a more disaggregated level of budget for IHP themes concerning both Regular Budget and Extrabudgetary resources. The breakdown by IHP theme was presented in the below table for the year 2017.

| BUDGET 2017 as of January 2017 | | |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| REGULAR BUDGET | | EXTRABUDGETARY (2017) |
| MLA 6: | | |
| Strengthen Water Security | 2,779,704 | 8,273,563 |
| | Current Allocation (2017) | Allocation (2017) |
| ER10 : Responses to water challenges | 1,970,503 | 6,211,868 |
| 1 Water Disasters | 287,169 | 2,629,846 |
| 2 Groundwater | 450,106 | 2,082,368 |
| 3 Water scarcity/quality | 443,114 | 511,383 |
| 4 Settlements | 122,769 | 419,740 |
| 5 Ecohydrology | 283,165 | 184,433 |
| 6 Water education | 384,180 | 384,098 |
| ER11: Institutional capacity | 809,201 | 2,061,695 |
| 1 Governance | 665,681 | 95,819 |
| 2 Institutional Capacities | 143,520 | 0 |
| 3 WWAP | 0 | 1,965,876 |

29. At the end of June 2017, UNESCO Secretariat was informed by UNESCO's Senior Management Team that, due to the non-payments of three among the top 25 UNESCO's contributors, a contingency plan was put in place in order to recover USD 50 Million. At that time, the IHP had available USD 843,039 (USD 484,891 in ER 10 and USD 358,148 in ER 11) for both field offices and headquarters. A total of USD 592,206 (70% of the total) were "frozen" from both ER 10 and ER 11. In an effort to minimize the effect of the budget cut to the field units, the Division of Water Sciences at headquarters had a total cut of USD 312,615, representing almost 53% of the total budget frozen and 77% of its available budget (USD 407,150). The contingency plan affected diversely the activities planned in IHP, limiting representation in high visibility events, intellectual output, providing support to the most vulnerable and eliminating opportunities for intra-sectoral cooperation as well as with the UNESCO Water Family members.

30. In particular, due to the freeze, IHP was not able to perform the evaluation of the IHP initiatives / programmes, was not represented adequately at the 9th International Jeju Water Forum (South Korea), the World Water Week and UN-Water meeting (Sweden, August-September), meetings on Groundwater in arid areas and climate change (Tunis) and on water quality in Central Asia. The foreseen work on assessing rural water management and support the most vulnerable populations was eliminated; work on the effects of climate change on glaciers and a joint collaboration on water scarcity and water quality did not proceed, as well as contribution to the organisation of an International Symposium on Ecohydrology and Circular Economy was not finalized. Finally, a planned meeting to define the priorities by IHP National Committees, C2C, Chairs and WWAP to implement IHP-VIII was cancelled. Field offices were affected as well, leading to a lesser impact of UNESCO in the field, notably in Asia where the Ecosystems IWRM for the World Water Forum and the Asia-Pacific Water Summit were taking place. IHP meetings were as well cancelled on addressing floods in developing countries, revamping of the initiative From Potential Conflict to Cooperation Potential (PCCP) towards a new strategy on water diplomacy and part of the FRIEND programmed events. The recruitment of a P4 for the Groundwater Systems Section was put on hold.

31. Following up on the IHP Intergovernmental Council Resolution XXII-7 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002451/245126e.pdf>) as well as on the Finance Committee request, the IHP Secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau of Strategic Planning (BSP), prepared the establishment of a special account. That special account will enable IHP to receive the financial assistance it needs to meet the demands of the Member States, mainly in the field of capacity-building activities in support of Member States and the major initiatives approved under the strategic plan for the eighth phase of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP-VIII). The establishment of the special account was approved by the 39th General Conference (November 2017).

32. In November 2017 UNESCO's General Conference approved the Programme and Budget for 2018-2019 (39 C/5) which endorsed an Implementation and Expenditure Plan based on the expected cash flow for the biennium, the ceiling of which was set at USD 518 Million. In light of a budgetary prioritization exercise led by Member States, freshwater-related Main Line of Action 6 was granted approximately USD 14 million (USD 14,015,400).

33. As to the budget figures, the table below contains information on the budget allocation for UNESCO's IHP related Main Line of Action 3 under the Income and Expenditure Plan for 2018-2019. Numbers are given at the level of Expected Results 7 and 8 and are broken down by operational and staff costs, as well as by allocations to headquarters and the field. In terms of staff allocation, out of US\$ 9.6 million for MLA 3, 63% will be spent at headquarters and 37% in the field network. As to the allocation to operational activities (corresponding to approximately USD 3.6 million for MLA 3), the ratio between headquarters and field is 48% to 52%. Operational activities account for approximately 26% of the total.

| MLA 3 39 C/5 | OPERATIONAL | | | | STAFF | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----|
| | ER7 | ER8 | MLA 3 | % | ER7 | ER8 | MLA 3 | % |
| Headquarters | 950,000 | 830,100 | 1,780,100 | 48 | 4,336,500 | 1,671,700 | 6,008,200 | 63 |
| Field Offices | 1,526,500 | 377,000 | 1,903,500 | 52 | 2,835,100 | 756,900 | 3,592,000 | 37 |
| Sub-total | 2,476,500 | 1,207,100 | 3,683,600 | 100 | 7,171,600 | 2,428,600 | 9,600,200 | 100 |
| Indirect costs* | 491,200 | 240,400 | 731,600 | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 2,967,700 | 1,447,500 | 4,415,200 | | 7,171,600 | 2,428,600 | 9,600,200 | |

* Includes contributions towards evaluation, publication, One UN, communication, house-wide cost sharing for maintenance, IT licenses and common operating costs.

34. Due to a change in the in the structure of the System of Information on Strategies, Tasks and the Evaluation of Results for the 39 C/5 (SISTER) which shown in the last biennium a budget distribution by IHP Themes (Group 1 to 6), the 39 C/5 Main Line of Action 3 (MLA 3), is currently organised in Regional Thematic Groupings, referred to Headquarters, Africa, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and North America and Latin America and the Caribbean.

35. The below table shows a distribution of the operational budget for each Regional Thematic Grouping, for the biennium 2018-2019 (39 C/5).

| 2018-2019 Operational Budget by ER and REGION | | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Region | ER7 | ER8 | TOTAL | % |
| HQ | 950,000 | 830,100 | 1,780,100 | 48% |
| Africa | 595,200 | 120,000 | 715,200 | 19% |
| Arab States | 279,460 | 85,840 | 365,300 | 10% |
| Asia and the Pacific | 335,800 | 65,000 | 400,800 | 11% |
| Europe and North America | 56,800 | | 56,800 | 2% |
| Latin America and the Carib | 259,240 | 106,160 | 365,400 | 10% |
| TOTAL | 2,476,500 | 1,207,100 | 3,683,600 | 100% |

REPORT OF THE IHP COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE (Agenda sub-item 4.7)

36. The Secretariat continuously increased IHP's visibility by improving communication and outreach activities in the reporting period. IHP's webpages were constantly and substantially updated, inter alia through the upload of most webpages in Spanish, the addition of new pages with information on IHP initiatives and projects, as requested per [Resolution XXII-3](#), such as IIWQ (en.unesco.org/waterquality-iiwq), IHP-WINS (en.unesco.org/ihp-wins), the Global Water Pathogen Project (en.unesco.org/theme/water-security/hydrology/water-human-settlements/gwpp) and the Urban Water Management Programme (en.unesco.org/uwmp/projects), as well as access to the archive of the former water portal's newsletter 2005-2011².

37. Between June 2016 and January 2018, the general Water Security website received 344187 visits with 642456 page views. The IHP website received 57428 visits with 123904 page views. As before, page views of the Water Security website reached a peak around World Water Day, on 22 March 2017 with 25189 views in 2017. The aforementioned figures reflect the impact of UNESCO water events and the increasing use of online information.

38. IHP issued more than 45 announcements of events and 21 news items on activities/projects, events and publications and made them available online. IHP has been featured on social media through the UNESCO accounts on Facebook and Twitter, events have also been featured on Flickr through dedicated photo albums as part of the UNESCO

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http://webarchive.unesco.org/20151215230121/http://www.unesco.org/water/news/newsletter/archive_s.shtml

Natural Sciences account and the dedicated IHP Water Family account, linking to 414 images in 11 albums which have received 318 cumulated views³.

39. Resolution XXII-3 requested that quarterly updates be sent to the UNESCO Water Family. The Secretariat sent informative emails on specific subjects to disseminate a summary of information, past and upcoming events in the Programme's networks and invite contributions to the actions of the Secretariat and/or to contribute on key issues related to IHP and its further development.

40. In the reporting period, 39 publications went online as well as 12 videos. The dedicated UNESCO water Youtube playlist⁴ currently counts 25 videos, cumulating over 82800 views. The Secretariat shared several videos and informative animations (Brussels office) via social media and produced a series of filmed interviews with participants of the IHP Water Knowledge Forum (November 2017). All communication material, including the constantly updated IHP information kit, is available through the following webpages:

<https://en.unesco.org/themes/water-security/hydrology/resources>

<https://en.unesco.org/themes/water-security/resources/videos>

41. The dedicated Twitter account of the Secretary of IHP issued 1399 tweets and has 1090 followers to date and is supported by the accounts of Programme officers. The account @unescoWATER launched in February 2018, counts, in April 2018, 23 tweets with more than 3000 views and over 110 followers.

42. With the support of a volunteering professional designer, the Secretariat undertook first steps towards changing the public image of IHP as a UNESCO Water "brand". This included the identification of specific target groups and the design or re-design of corresponding materials, i.e. for the Member States representatives, the scientific community and the general public. Two series of Thematic and Regional brochures benefitted from the re-design. A first revision of IHP's mission statement was presented at the Information meeting for Member States in September 2017. As per the decision of the 56th Bureau, the name change of IHP is being submitted for discussion to the 23rd IHP Council based on document IC-XXIII/Ref.7.

43. The recruitment of the communication officer at P2 level in June 2017 has shifted the challenges and lessons learnt encountered in past years. Continuous coordination of IHP's communication and related core tasks are now ensured. However, certain challenges largely remained and were exacerbated by the contingency plan put in place in July 2017: in the face of an increased need of visibility, experienced temporary staff was available only intermittently, disrupting established and evolving workflows and delaying implementation of the draft Communication and Outreach Strategy, the Resolution XXII-3 (e.g. producing the quarterly e-mail circular to the UNESCO Water Family), and further progress of branding "UNESCO Water" (decision of the 55th Bureau). Close collaboration with the Natural Science Sector's communication team continues, helping to enhance IHP's communication and outreach activities, for instance in the case of the COP 23.

³ Flickr: Natural Sciences : <https://www.flickr.com/photos/127450990@N05/albums>, IHP: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/151263658@N06/albums>

⁴ https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWuYED1WVJIPVor5RZ6GfS_RuVyVSK-4-