

The Integrated Assessment Society (TIAS)

Plans and Budget 2019-2020



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I. Activities and Plans 2019-2020

1. Key priorities

The key priorities of TIAS as reported in the Advisory Board meeting in early April is to create more opportunities for face-to-face meetings among members and to maintain the visibility of TIAS. While TIAS is an almost exclusively on-line community, face-to-face meetings are sometimes necessary for better communication and cohesion. Some of the goals of 2018 are carried over into 2019 because they are ongoing activities:

1. Identify and apply for funds to organize a workshop series that specifically focuses on a theme that is of direct relevance to TIAS and its members. Attention is being given to national science foundations or agencies;
2. Continue to strengthen collaboration with projects and organizations that share an interest in IA and organize summer/winter schools, conferences or workshops (e.g., EU projects, IAMC, iEMSs, EEA, Future Earth, UO and SENSE).
3. Continue with IA principles review: continue to seek funding for the decadal review of the Bellagio Principles.
4. Transform TIAS into an open network of like-minded people with a large, open e-mail list to share news and announcements and a core of paying/donating members to maintain minimum services.

Suggestions from TIAS members for the above are welcomed. Also, TIAS members are encouraged to represent TIAS in conferences. They can obtain TIAS promotion material from the secretariat.

2. Regional chapters and working groups

Regional chapters

TIAS-Latin America will be revived by Matt Hare (who is now living in Scotland) once he has identified a co-chair locally. The themes of interest are still climate adaptation and the resilience of coastal communities. Plans focus on organization of workshops and the translation of documents about IA, and eventually IA principles, to Spanish. Latin America remains a very interesting region for TIAS (e.g. measuring progress towards the SDGs).

TIAS remains open to an Australasia chapter. Tony Jakeman of ANU has suggested this be placed on hold since the numbers are too small to justify this now.

Learning community

TIAS Learning Community is a capacity development initiative which has as its purpose the enhancement of the learning capacity of researchers, policymakers and practitioners who examine or seek to stimulate or organize learning for sustainable development. It brings together people with diverse disciplinary and organizational backgrounds. The community relies on on-line groups such

has Google and Researchgate, plus meetings at conferences including sessions organized by the Learning Community. Another 1-2 webinars will be organized in 2019 by the learning community. The community will contribute to two conferences in 2019: the International Sustainability Transitions conference (after successful sessions at this conference in 2016 and 2017) and Leverage Points 2019: International conference on sustainability research and transformation.

IA Principles working group

The IA review working group continues to seek sources of funding for its proposed workshop. Since TIAS was not successful in securing funding from the Rockefeller Foundation for a workshop to be held in September in Bellagio, efforts are devoted to other sources of funding (e.g. VW foundation: Symposia and summer school; Herrenhauser conference, and Thyssen Stiftung. The review meeting will be invitation-only. Related sessions as part of other conferences are conceivable.

Early Career Network

The early career network is intended to involve young researchers (Master Students, PhDs, postdocs) with complementary research topics in an exchange among themselves. The network will be kicked off by an email campaign among the members. Johannes Halbe, former secretary to the TIAS executive board, will work on ideas to encourage young researchers in the field of integrated assessment to team up. A webinar may be used to provide an initial venue for exchange. TIAS could create a database of potential internship positions among members. Virtual internships are also possible. Members will be polled on this.

3. Research, training and networking activities

Webinars

The TIAS webinars have developed into the most visible activity of the association. Webinar events have been coordinated by Joanne Vinke-de Kruijf (until Oct. 2018, secretary of TIAS Executive Board, and now member of the Advisory Board). She is supported in this by Caroline Lumosi and Caroline van Bers.

A webinar on **knowledge repositories** is planned for September (or later): This theme is born from the frustration of seeing EU-sponsored projects set up good systems, methodologies and networks, only to see them fall flat when the subsidy stops. The public good created then evaporates. This remains the case even though the European Commission nowadays asks for provisions to keep the results accessible and embedded in ongoing work. Jan Bakkes together with Lucas Porsch (formerly of Ecologic, now with Valdani Vicari) have produced a webinar outline and a short challenges paper. Klaus Jacob and Lucas Porsch are preparing the actual webinar. The European Commission is an important client.

Furthermore the TIAS Learning Community has proposed the following webinar topics:

- narratives in sustainable development
- serious gaming in sustainable development
- assessments of learning

Willemijn Tuinstra will work with Joanne Vinke-de Kruijf to organise a webinar around her new book: Turnhout, Tuinstra & Halffman: **Environmental Expertise**, Cambridge University Press.

Another possible theme that resonated with the Advisory board is how to deal with the policy situation where (i) politicians are requesting increasing evidence and, simultaneously (ii) the denial of evidence is increasing. A lead for this webinar will be sought.

A webinar on GEO-6, its findings, its 25 year history, and the possible redesign and mandate for GEO-7 is also under consideration. Edgar Gutierrez, Minister of Energy for Costa Rica is active on this topic and may be contacted.

The webinar team of TIAS is also available to provide practical support for the organization of a webinar that are not organized by TIAS but whose themes are in line with the broader interests of TIAS.

Workshops

TIAS is an almost exclusively on-line community. However, in some cases in-person meetings work better and are good for bringing the community closer.

TIAS volunteers will be considering themes that could bring this community together in a conference. Current topics are **populism and evidence-based policy making** with an aim to understand rather than advocate and the wording should reflect this – suggested by Bas Arts for consideration as a webinar topic. The event could also be a TIAS-organized session as part of a larger conference. TIAS will look to national research councils who may be interested and could fund a conference, but will initially build momentum through a webinar. The latter often work well and are efficient in terms of organizational work.

Another workshop /session topic that may be considered is the SDGS and in particular the **assessment needs of non-state actors** such as the corporate sector or cities.

Summer Schools

In the interest of keeping the summer school activities moving forward, TIAS will look for opportunities to team up with the summer school initiatives of other organisations (e.g., EU projects, IAMC, iEMSs, EEA, Future Earth, Osnabrueck Univ. and SENSE)

Projects

Involvement in the MEDUWA Vecht(e) project continues in the form of participation in the project coordination team.

4. Outreach and Promotion Activities

Newsletter

Four newsletters are planned for 2019: April, June, September and December. Features have been secured for the June and September issues of the newsletter. A subscription feature will be added to increase readership of the newsletter.

Website

One new feature is planned for the website: giving visitors the opportunity to subscribe to the newsletter.

Report Series

TIAS members are encouraged to approach Caroline or Anna with their ideas/potential themes for the report series.

One ideas for 2019-20: The Learning Community will launch a call for abstracts for its webinar on the

assessment of learning. These abstracts are expected to be compiled in a TIAS report (Contact: Joanne Vinke de Kruijf).

Other Activities

Our network: The executive board will continue to promote TIAS and increase its visibility among collaborating organizations.

TIAS Role in the climate and biodiversity crises: What is our role in this? Do we have a responsibility keep the momentum going? TIAS is experienced in the basics of keeping a global network alive without excessive travel and is exploring what it can do to encourage responsible use of natural resources among scientists and practitioners. There may be other means to support the movement to protect the environment.

5. Legal / Administrative Matters

Elections

In October 2019 TIAS will have elections for the president and vice-presidents.

Composition of the advisory board

No changes to the advisory board are foreseen in 2019.

Composition of the extended executive

No changes to the extended executive are foreseen.

Membership

Webinars continue to be a good means for attracting new members and the association will continue to be promoted in this way.

We plan to further promote institutional membership and to continue to increase the visibility of TIAS. We are also requesting institutional members of TIAS to encourage other individuals in their institutions to sign up.

Working groups such as the learning community are also a good entry point for attracting new members.

II. Budget 2019

BUDGET 2019

Expenditures are expected to be within the normal range for the association. A negative bank balance at the end of 2019 of €200 is expected to be covered by a surplus in the Paypal account. The extra administration expenditures is to due to work on Wordpress website and migration of web server and mail server.

Balance forward 2018-12-31		€3,991.58
Revenue		
	Courses and events, Revenue	€0.00
	Membership Fees	€3,000.00
	Other MEDUWA project expenses	€800.00
Expenditures		
	Staff	-€2,000.00
	Administration, Promotions, Other	-€2,000.00
	Courses and Event, Expenses	€0.00
Total Balance 2019-12-31		-€200.00
Deficit to be covered with savings in Paypal account		

