

The Integrated Assessment Society (TIAS)

Annual and Financial Reports 2018



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I. Annual Report

1. Working groups and Regional chapters

Working groups

In 2018, we had two active working groups: the Learning Community and the IA Principles Review. The Learning Community is an international, online community of circa 100 scientists, policymakers and practitioners who share an interest in learning for sustainable development. The Community is a follow-up of successful sessions of the International Sustainability Transitions (IST) conference 2016 and coordinated with support of TIAS. The Community organizes webinars (1 in 2018) and has a mailing list that is used for regular updates regarding publications, special issues etcetera.

<http://www.tias-web.info/tias-activities/learning-community/>.

In 2018, we planned to establish an early career network focusing on the development of IA principles. This was not realised due to lack of capacity, but there are still attempts ongoing to establish this network.

For the IA principles review, the executive board submitted a funding proposal to the Rockefeller Foundation (Bellagio). Although the proposal was not successful due to a high number of applicants, the executive board is currently looking into other funding options for implementing a workshop on reviewing the Bellagio principles.

Regional Chapters

TIAS-Latin America started several years ago and remains an interesting region from the perspective of integrated assessment practice. One underlying problem in the region is how to sustain local-level projects and how to support local research systems.

However, since the start of TIAS-LA, Matt Hare – TIAS Adv. Board member, who initiated the regional chapter, has moved from Mexico to Scotland. He and Marcela Brugnach (also Adv. Board member) are still interested in remaining involved in TIAS-LA and are looking for a co-chair from the region now since neither of them is based in Latin America.

Webinars

The webinars have developed into TIAS most visible activity, besides the quarterly newsletter. Webinar production is coordinated by Joanne Vinke-De Kruijf (previously Secretary to the TIAS Executive Board, now Member of the Advisory Board).

In 2018, two TIAS webinars took place, and one third-party webinar was hosted by TIAS:

- **Applying integrated assessments to the SDGs:**
 - This webinar included Francois Fortier of UN-DESA reporting on early projects by five pilot countries using a range of methods. This webinar was the third on IA and the SDGs, all initiated by Laszlo Pinter.
- **Education for sustainable development:**
 - This webinar was implemented by the TIAS Learning Community and generated enthusiastic responses for further activities including webinars.

A third-party webinar was hosted by TIAS on **Energy and Gender in the informal food sector:**

TIAS has by now a well established routine in preparing and running our style of webinars. Others are apparently struggling with this. TIAS assisted, for a fee, in the production of this webinar (a project with participants in Rwanda, Senegal and South Africa). Subsequently, TIAS made this service available to others, provided the topic broadly matches the area of integrated assessment in environment and sustainable development.

Reports and other materials from all TIAS webinars, including recordings, are available from the TIAS website: <https://www.tias-web.info/tias-activities/webinars/>

Projects

TIAS is still involved as a partner in the three-year MEDUWA-Vechte project, of which TIAS is one of 27 partners and a member of the coordinating team. The project focuses on reducing pharmaceuticals and multi-resistant bacteria in the transboundary Vechte river basin in Germany and the Netherlands and is funded by the European Commission's INTERREG Deutschland-Nederland VA Programme. TIAS rolled back its involvement as a member of the consortium as of January 2018 to reduce the administrative burden, and transferred personnel positions to the lead partner, Osnabrück University.

TIAS Meetings

TIAS has evolved into an almost exclusively on-line community. But for some topics, in-person meetings work better and occasional in-person meetings are good for TIAS' cohesion. The board had concluded at their strategy meeting in 2017 that in-person meetings should have high priority. At the same time, some national research councils are interested in internationalizing their work and therefore sponsor research events with foreign participation. One example is the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. Therefore, TIAS has been looking into different funding opportunities this year. Obviously, specific conditions may apply - for example an obligatory location, which can make the implementation of in-person meetings difficult.

Moreover, the executive board plans to compile a list of conferences or conference series that are relevant for TIAS to be used as a starting point for developing proposals for conference sessions.

Other

- During the 2016 AGM, the boards proposed to set up an expert database. This idea has not materialized yet due to a lack of capacity but is still envisioned.
- The TIAS board has been in contact with the Integrated Assessment Modeling Consortium (IAMC). Formal links have not yet been established but the groundwork for future collaboration is there.
- Efforts are ongoing to secure funding for workshops and conference sessions under the umbrella of TIAS. In 2018, no TIAS sessions were run at conferences.

2. Outreach and Promotion Activities

Newsletter

As planned, four newsletters were released in 2018 (March, June, September and December).

Website

The website has been functioning well.

Report Series

No report was published in 2018.

3. Legal / Administrative Matters

Elections

Election of the extended executive (secretary, treasurer and assistants to the executive) and the TIAS advisory board took place October 2018. All members were invited to submit nominations.

The results of the elections are as follows:

- TIAS Advisory Board (Oct. 2018-Oct. 2020)
 - Bas Arts
 - Marcela Brugnach
 - Matt Hare
 - Anthony Jakeman
 - Laszlo Pinter
 - Willemijn Tuinstra
 - Peter Viebahn
 - Joanne Vinke-de Kruijf
- TIAS extended executive
 - Caroline van Bers, Honorary Treasurer
 - Caroline Lumosi, Assistant to the Executive Board
 - No secretary was nominated. Therefore, Anna-Lena Guske is Acting Secretary at the moment

Membership

In 2018, we had 105 registered TIAS members: 71 individual members, 34 institutional members who represent 8 institutes that are based in Australia, Europe, and the USA. However, only 30 paid their membership fee. New members typically join after participating in TIAS events: webinars, summer schools, etc.

II. Financial report 2019

Balance forward 2017-12-31		€21.221,46
REVENUES	Courses and events, Revenue	€0,00
	Membership Fees	€2.635,00
	Other	€1.000,00
EXPENDITURES	Staff	-€1.130,00
	Administration, Promotions, Other (mainly MEDUWA project)	-€19.734,88
	Courses and Event, Expenses	€0,00
Total Balance 2017-12-31		€3.991,58