

Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme

4th Extraordinary session of the Intergovernmental Council
(Paris, 29 September-1 October 2021)

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Summary

This document pertains to the item 4 of the Provisional Agenda, and reports on the following sub-items:

- 4.1. Developments at the Natural Sciences Sector and the Division of Water Sciences following the 205th to 211th sessions of the Executive Board and the 40th session of the General Conference
- 4.2. Report on IHP Special Account
- 4.3. IHP-related extrabudgetary activities
- 4.4. Report of the Finance Committee
- 4.5. Report of the Communication and Outreach Committee

205TH TO 211TH SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND THE 40TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE (Agenda sub-item 4.1)

Decisions of the 205th session of the Executive Board

1. The Executive Board, at its 205th session (October 2018), noted that the Ninth World Water Forum will be held in Dakar, Senegal, in 2021 with the theme “Water security for peace and development”, and requested the Director-General to ensure that UNESCO and IHP will continue to contribute to the organization and debate at the next Forum. It also requested the Director-General to continue implementing and strengthening the action of IHP in promoting the potential of the young generation as agents for change and innovation in the search for solutions for water and sanitation challenges and in implementing and sharing water-related policies and best practices on water and sanitation, as highlighted in the Ministerial Declaration of the Eighth World Water Forum.

2. The Executive Board, at its 205th session (October 2018), took note of the Director General’s recommendation to renew the designation of the Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management (RC-IRBM) (Nigeria) and the Regional Humid Tropics Hydrology and Water Resources Centre for South-East Asia and the Pacific (HTC Kuala Lumpur) (Malaysia) as centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2). It also took note of the deviations between the model agreement for category 2 institutes and centres in attachment to the Annex to document 37 C/18 Part I and the draft agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Malaysia concerning the HTC Kuala Lumpur. The Executive Board confirmed that the RCIRBM and the HTC Kuala Lumpur have performed satisfactorily as centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) and decided to renew the designations for both centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2).

Decisions of the 206th session of the Executive Board

3. The Executive Board, at its 206th session (April 2019), considered the proposed revisions of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council (IGC) of IHP. It recommended that the General Conference approve the Statutes after amending Article X.2 of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP-IGC) in order to meet the travel expenses of representatives of least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS) at meetings of the IHP-IGC and its Bureau (see Annex I of [document 206 EX/8](#)). The Executive Board expressed its appreciation for the successful efforts of the IHP-IGC in revising its Statutes and aligning them, where appropriate, on the recommendations on governance endorsed by the General Conference at its 39th session by means of 39 C/Resolution 87.

4. Furthermore, the Executive Board approved the extension of the current agreement regarding the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) in Tsukuba, Japan, until 22 February 2020 to allow sufficient time for the completion of the assessment process, including the negotiation of the draft renewal agreement, and the presentation to it at its 207th session of the assessment results and the recommendations of the Director-General thereon.

5. The Executive Board decided to renew the designation of the Regional Centre on Capacity Development and Research in Water Harvesting (RCWH) in Khartoum, Sudan, as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) and took note of the information provided by the Government of Brazil regarding the decision to cease the activities of the International Centre for Education, Capacity Building and Applied Research in Water (HidroEx) as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2).

Decisions of the 207th session of the Executive Board

6. The Executive Board, at its 207th session (October 2019), examined the evaluation report of the completed Mid-term Evaluation of Phase VIII of the International Hydrological Programme (2014-2021) and welcomed the corresponding management response (annexed to document [207 EX/5.II.B](#)). The Board invited the Director-General to enable the adequate follow up to all recommendations contained in document, with a view to the strategic preparation of the post-2021 phase.

7. Within the decisions taken by the Executive Board during its 207th session, was the approval of the proposals for the establishment of two Category 2 Centers: the International Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Water Systems Dynamics, (ICIReWaRD), France and the Regional Experimental Centre for Sanitation Technologies (CERTS) in Uruguay and the recommendation that the General Conference approves them at its 40th session.

8. The Executive Board considered that the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) in Tsukuba, Japan and the Asia Pacific Centre for Ecohydrology (APCE) in Cibinong, Indonesia have performed satisfactorily and decided to renew the designations as centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2).

UNESCO's 40th GENERAL CONFERENCE

9. The 40th session of the General Conference (12-27 November 2019), examined in document 40 C/62 the revision of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) and approved the amendments proposed as set out in the Annex III to the Resolutions of the 40th session of the General Conference and its corrigendum [40 C/62 Corr.](#)

10. Furthermore, the General Conference approved the establishment of the two, recommended by the Executive Board at its 207th session, Category 2 Centres: the International Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Water Systems Dynamics, (ICIReWaRD), France, and the Regional Experimental Centre for Sanitation Technologies (CERTS) in Uruguay.

Decisions of the 209th session of the Executive Board

11. The Executive Board during its 209th session considered that the Centre for the Sustainable Management of Water Resources in the Caribbean Island States (CEHICA), in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (CEHICA) and the International Research and Training Centre on Urban Drainage (IRTCUD), in Belgrade, Republic of Serbia have performed satisfactorily and decided to renew the designations as centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2).

Decisions of the 210th session of the Executive Board

12. The Executive Board during its 210th session considered that the the Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science (CWLPS), at the University of Dundee in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; the International Centre on Water Resources and Global Change (ICWRGC) in Koblenz, Germany; the International Centre for Water Cooperation (ICWC) in Stockholm, Sweden; and the European Regional Centre for Ecohydrology (ERCE) in Lodz, Poland have performed satisfactorily and decided to renew the designations as centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2).

Decisions of the 211th session of the Executive Board

13. The Executive Board during its 209th session approved the extension, until 31 December 2021, of the agreements concerning: the Regional Centre for Training and Water Studies of Arid and Semi-Arid Zones (RCTWS), in Egypt; and the Centre for Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change (WSDAC) in Belgrade, Serbia, in order to allow sufficient time for the completion of the respective renewal processes, including the negotiation of the draft renewal tripartite agreement, and requested the submission of the results of the evaluations and the recommendations to the 212th session of the Executive Board.

REPORT ON THE IHP SPECIAL ACCOUNT (Agenda sub-item 5.4)

14. The IGC of IHP at its 22nd session via Resolution XXII-7, requested to the IHP Secretariat to establish the draft financial regulations for the special account and to mobilize the UNESCO's Water Family to voluntarily contribute proactively to the implementation and reporting process on SDG 6 targets and those of other water related goals. The Secretariat in close cooperation with the Bureau of Strategic Planning and the Bureau of Financial Management, presented the documents related to the establishment of the account to the Director-General and received her approval in June 2017.

15. The establishment of the special account was approved by the 39th session of the General Conference (November 2017) and will enable IHP to receive the financial assistance it needs to meet the demands of Member States, mainly in the field of capacity development in support of Member States. The draft financial regulations for the special account are presented in [IHP/IC-XXIII/Ref. 2](#).

16. To date no donations have been received.

EXTRABUDGETARY ACTIVITIES (Agenda sub-item 4.3)

17. In the Division of Water Sciences, the Government of Italy has been generously financing WWAP since 2007, with a total contribution of USD 31.7 million until 2021. WWAP has also received contributions from other partners as project-based funding.

18. IHP related extrabudgetary activities and projects are summarized below, representing a total of approximately USD 51.3 million over the different executing periods (not limited to the June 2018 to June 2021 reporting period). Out of 49 extrabudgetary projects, 21 are ongoing at the date of this reporting.

19. It must be noted that the Division of Water Sciences has developed a fundraising strategy with the Global Environment Facility (GEF). During the period 2018-2021, the GEF approved UNESCO-led projects for a total of 12 Million USD. In addition, three projects are in the pipeline, for additional 12 Million USD. 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 one P4). The Division of Water Sciences has been engaged with the European Union (EU) through the Joint Research Centre (JRC) and the Directorate-General for International Partnerships

DG-INTPA (former DEVCO) with the support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Water Centres of Excellence in Africa and for potential other supports.

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

21. The table below summarizes the funds received by Expected Result (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>
Addressing Water Security: Climate Impacts and Adaptation Responses in Africa, Asia and LAC	Belgium - Government of Flanders	IHP	2014-2020	\$ 661,896
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	UNESCO Office in Harare	2016-2020	\$ 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	2017-2022	\$ 641,296
Strengthening FUST impact by outreach on successful water security tools	Government of Flanders	IHP	2018-2021	\$50,000
Water disaster Platform to enhance climate resilience in Africa	Japan – Ministry of Foreign Affairs	IHP	2019-2021	\$1,700,000
Formulation of the PPG - Strengthening the resilience of Central Asian countries by enabling regional cooperation to assess high altitude glacio-nival systems to develop integrated methods for sustainable development and adaptation to climate change	GEF	IHP	2019-2020	\$200,000

Climate-resilient water management approaches: Application towards Climate Action and 2030 Development Agenda	Government of Flanders	IHP	2020-2021	\$50,000
Addressing Hydro-climatic variability through Citizen and Open Science	Government of Flanders	IHP	Pipeline project, awaiting approval	\$758,520
Strengthening the resilience of Central Asian countries in response to glaciers melting and climate change - GEF-UNDP Full size project	GEF	UNESCO Office in Almaty	Pipeline project, awaiting approval	\$6,192,694
Reducing vulnerabilities of populations in Central Asia region from glacier lake outburst floods in a changing climate	Adaptation fund	UNESCO Office in Almaty	2021-2027	\$ 6,500,000
Strengthening Disaster Prevention Approaches in Eastern Africa - (STEDPEA) – Joint project of IHP and EES-DRR	Japan – Ministry of Foreign Affairs JSB Project	UNESCO	2020-2021	\$ 685,718
Using drones and early warning systems for the management of pre- and post-flood disasters in the Gambia	India – UN Partnership Funds	UNESCO Dakar MSRO	2019-2021	\$1,200,000
Biosphere Reserves as Observatories for Climate Change Adaptation in Southern Africa (B-RESILIENT) – Joint project of IHP and EES-DRR	Flemish UNESCO Science Trust Fund (FUST)	UNESCO Harare	2020-2022	\$ 590,000
A Bottom-up Approach to Climate Change Adaptation: Towards Sustainable Water and Ecosystem Management – Joint project of IHP and EES	Flemish Government (bilateral funding to South Africa)	UNESCO Harare	Pipeline project waiting approval	\$ 1,600,000
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>
GEF International Waters: Learning Exchange And Resources Network (IW:LEARN) 4th Phase	GEF	IHP and IOC	2015-2019	\$ 250,000
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	UNDP	IHP	2018-2020	\$ 360,000

transboundary water governance in Africa				
Design and testing of a multi-purpose transboundary groundwater monitoring network in the Extended Drin River Basin	GWP-Med	IHP	2018-2020	\$200,000
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
Groundwater Resources in Greater Mekong Sub-region: Collaborative Management to Increase Resilience (Project Formulation Grant)	Multilateral - Adaptation Fund	UNESCO Office in Jakarta	2019-2020	\$ 80,000
Governance of Groundwater Resources in Transboundary Aquifers (GGRETA) - Phase 3	SDC	IHP	2019-2022	\$ 1,988,442
Implementation of the Strategic Action Program (SAP) of the Dinaric Karst Aquifer System: improving groundwater governance and sustainability of related ecosystems.	GEF	IHP	2021-2026	\$ 5,145,000
Enabling implementation of the Regional Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the rational and equitable management of the Nubian Sandstone Aquifer System (NSAS)	GEF	IHP	2018-2022	\$ 3,990,000
Mediterranean coastal aquifers management and governance	GEF	IHP	2021-2025	\$ 2,825,000
Improving IWRM, Knowledge-based Management and Governance of the Niger Basin and the Iullemeden-Taoudeni/Tanezrouft Aquifer System (ITTAS)	GEF	IHP	2019-2023	\$ 200,000
UNESCO activities implemented within the UN WATER framework (Monitoring of indicator 6.5.2)	UNOPS	IHP	2019-2022	280,000 USD
Enhancing sustainability of the Transboundary Cambodia - Mekong River Delta Aquifer	GEF/FAO	IHP	Project in pipeline, pending approval	\$4.1 M

Fostering multi-country cooperation over conjunctive surface and groundwater management in the Bug and Neman Transboundary River Basins and the underlying aquifer systems	GEF/UNDP	IHP	Project in pipeline, pending approval	\$ 2,731,000
Strengthening local communities' adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change through sustainable groundwater exploitation in Zimbabwe	Adaptation Fund	UNESCO	Project approved by donor, but not yet started	\$ 5,000,000
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	2014-2021	\$ 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
Water Security for Community in Turkana County, Kenya	Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation	UNESCO Office Nairobi	2019-2021	\$ 340,909
700GLO2000 - The Role of Sediments and Hydropower in River Basin Management - A contribution to the UNESCO IHP World's Large Rivers Initiative.	World Bank	UNESCO Beijing Office	2019-2021	\$ 280,000
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	2015-2020	\$ 23,848
Sustainable Water Security for Human Settlements in Developing Countries under Climate Change	Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and	IHP	2017-2026	\$ 3,130,000

	Transportation (MOLIT) of RoK			
Senior Programme Specialist (P5) Secondment to Hydrology Division	Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transportation (MOLIT) of RoK	IHP	2020-2021	\$ 465,908
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>
Upscaling Water Security to Meet Local, Regional, and Global Challenges - Designing local ecohydrology and IWRM educational resources for Africa	Malaysia	UNESCO Office in Jakarta	2018-2019	\$ 100,000
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>
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
Good Governance for the Sustainable Development Goals: mobilizing UNESCO's water and environmental science networks for the 2030 Agenda	Government - Japan - Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology	UNESCO Office in Jakarta	2019-2022	\$ 430,000

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
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	2016-2020	\$ 2,598,550

REPORT OF THE IHP FINANCE COMMITTEE (Agenda sub-item 4.4)

22. The present report recalls the financial information provided for the last IHP Council (June 2018) which was also presented at the 58th Bureau meeting, held in September 2019. It takes into consideration both the 2018-2019 (39 C/5) and the 2020-2021 (40 C/5) budgetary periods, as well as the funds allocated and reported for activities under expected result 7 and 8 (ER 7, ER 8). In November 2017, the 39th session of the 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. Following the budgetary prioritization exercise led by Member States, freshwater-related Main Line of Action 3 was granted approximately USD 14 million (USD 14,015,400).

23. As to the budget figures, the table below (Table 1) 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. The budgetary figures are provided 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% was 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 was 48% to 52%. Operational activities account for approximately 26% of the total.

TABLE 1 2018-2019 Total Budget

Main Line of Action 3 USD 14,015,400

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.

24. The budget for 39 C/5 Main Line of Action 3 (MLA 3), is distributed according to Regional Thematic Groupings, referred to as Headquarters, Africa, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and North America and Latin America and the Caribbean. This change in distribution is as a result of the modification of the structure of the System of Information on Strategies, Tasks and the Evaluation of Results for the 39 C/5 (SISTER) which showed the distribution of the budget of the previous biennium according to IHP Themes (Group 1 to 6). Therefore, Table 2 below shows the distribution of the operational budget for each Regional Group, for the biennium 2018-2019 (39 C/5). Additionally, following the request of the Finance Committee an indicative budget (2018-2019) of the water related category two centres and chairs are also noted in Table 2.

TABLE 2 - 2018-2019 IHP Operational Budget by ERs and by Region including Chairs and Centres total budget

Region	ER7	ER8	TOTAL	%	Chairs	Centres
HQ	950,000	830,100	1,780,100	48%	0	0
Africa	595,200	120,000	715,200	19%	360,765	628,000
Arab States	279,460	85,840	365,300	10%	420,000	900,000
Asia and the Pacific	335,800	65,000	400,800	11%	929,418	12,393,400
Europe and North America	56,800	0	56,800	2%	3,620,730	115,770,000
Latin America and the Caribbean	259,240	106,160	365,400	10%	172,515	3,008,000
Total	2,476,500	1,207,100	3,683,600	100%	5,503,428	132,699,400

The Budget for C2Cs in ENA includes USD 108,000,000 of IHE Delft; the budget for the region without IHE Delft is therefore USD 7,770,000.

25. Table 2 shows that 52%¹ of the IHP 2018-2019 Operational Budget was allocated to the various regions while 48% was allocated to UNESCO's HQ. The Africa region, as

¹ Excluding funding from the Chairs and C2 Centres

UNESCO's Global priority, was given the highest budgetary allocation with 19%. The Asia Pacific region received the second highest allocation of 11% followed by the Arab States, Latin America and the Caribbean with 10% each, and Europe and North America region with 2%.

26. It needs to be noted that for ER 8, an amount of 547,100 USD was allocated to HQ to facilitate the Governance aspects of IHP, such as Bureau and Council meetings. The amount represents 30.7% of the total funds managed by HQ.

27. The total 2018-2019 indicative budget obtained for 49% of the chairs (27 responses out of 55) and for 70% of the centres (24 responses out of 36) shows that the budget is higher than the one for IHP. The total budget of the chairs for 2018-2019 is approximately USD 5,503,428 and USD 132,699,400 for Centres (USD 16,929,400 without IHE Delft) while the total budget for IHP is USD 14,015,400. The budgetary distribution of Chairs and Centres according to regions indicate that those from Europe and North America have the highest budget with USD 3,620,730 for chairs and USD 115,770,000 for centres, followed by the Asia Pacific Region with a budget of USD 929,418 and USD 12,397,436, LAC with USD 172,215 and USD 3,080,000, Arab States with USD 420,000 and USD 900,000 and Africa with USD 360,765 and USD 628,000.

40th Session of UNESCO's General Conference (November 2019)

28. In November 2019, the 40th session of the General Conference approved the Programme and Budget for 2020-2021 (40 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 534.6 Million. Following the budgetary prioritization exercise led by Member States, freshwater-related Main Line of Action 3 was granted approximately USD 14.5 million (USD 14,555,900), which represents an increase of USD 540,500 (3.8%) in respect to the previous biennium (2018-2019).

29. As to the budget figures, the table below (Table 3) contains information on the budget allocation for UNESCO's IHP related Main Line of Action 3 under the Income and Expenditure Plan for 2020-2021. The budgetary figures are provided 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\$ 9.7 million for MLA 3, 62% will be spent at headquarters and 38% in the field network. As to the allocation to operational activities (corresponding to approximately USD 4 million for MLA 3), the ratio between headquarters and field is 39% to 61%. Operational activities account for approximately 28% of the total.

TABLE 3

Main Line of Action 3 USD 14,555,900

MLA 3 40 C/5	OPERATIONAL				STAFF			
	ER7	ER8	MLA 3	%	ER7	ER8	MLA 3	%
Headquarters	810,696	759,600	1,570,296	39	4,331,100	1,701,300	6,032,400	62
Field Offices	1,914,429	559,300	2,473,729	61	2,922,100	785,800	3,707,900	38
Sub-total	2,725,125	1,318,900	4,044,025	100	7,253,200	2,487,100	9,740,300	100
Indirect costs*	511,675	259,900	771,575					
TOTAL	3,236,800	1,578,800	4,815,600		7,253,200	2,487,100	9,740,300	

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

30. As for the 39 C/5, the budget for 40 C/5 Main Line of Action 3 (MLA 3), is distributed according to Regional Thematic Groupings, referred to as Headquarters, Africa, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and North America and Latin America and the Caribbean. Therefore, Table 4 below shows the distribution of the operational budget for each Regional Group, for the biennium 2020-2021 (40 C/5).

TABLE 4 - 2020-2021 IHP Operational Budget by ERs and by Region

Region	ER7	ER8	TOTAL	%
HQ	810,696	759,600	1,570,296	38.8%
Africa	814,208	273,800	1,088,008	26.9%
Arab States	349,460	85,840	435,300	10.8%
Asia and the Pacific	377,300	95,500	472,800	11.7%
Europe and North America	56,800	0	56,800	1.4%
Latin America and the Caribbean	316,661	104,160	420,821	10.4%
Total	2,725,125	1,318,900	4,044,025	100%

31. Table 4 shows that 61% of the IHP 2020-2021 Operational Budget was allocated to the various regions while 39% was allocated to UNESCO's HQ. The Africa region, as UNESCO's Global priority, has the highest budgetary allocation with 27%. The Asia Pacific region received the second highest allocation of 12% followed by the Arab States, Latin America and the Caribbean with 10% each, and Europe and North America region with 1.4%.

32. It needs to be noted that for ER 8, an amount of 547,100 USD was allocated to HQ to facilitate the Governance aspects of IHP, such as Bureau and Council meetings. The amount represents 34.8% of the total funds managed by HQ.

33. A summary of the major changes between 39 C/5 and 40 C/5 is in what follows:

- In 40 C/5 (2020-2021) Main Line of Action 3 was granted USD 14,555,900, which represents an increase of USD 540,500 (3.8%) in respect to the previous biennium (2018-2019)
- The operational budget at headquarters for 40 C/5 is reduced by USD 209,804 (-12%) with respect to the amount allocated in the previous biennium (2018-2019), despite a 3.8% increase of the overall budget allocation for the Division
- The decrease in operational budget comes at a time that the General Conference revised the Statutes of IHP and has requested the Division to support the mission of LDC and SIDS representatives to the Council and Bureau sessions (which implies an increase in budget expenditures for the governance aspects)
- The operational budget at Field Offices is increased of USD 570,229 (+30%) in respect to the previous biennium (2018-2019)
- The operational budget of Africa is increased of USD 372,808 (+52%) in respect to the previous biennium (2018-2019)
- The budget allocation to Africa results in an increase of 50% to Dakar, 20% to Yaoundé, 64% to Harare, 100% to Addis and in a decrease of 30% to Brazzaville, 10% to Nairobi and 7% to Abuja. It is worth to note that the above allocations were decided without the submission of work plans, as it happens customarily.

Actions expected by the Council:

To take note of the report of the IHP Finance Committee and encourage National Committees in the regions and partners to further strengthen their support to IHP.

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

34. According to the revised Terms of Reference adopted at the Council's 23rd Session in June 2018, "The Communication and Outreach Committee of IHP is established and mandated by the Intergovernmental Council, to act on behalf of the IHP to help reviewing, adapting and implementing the overall communication strategy of IHP. It will also undertake initiatives to raise the impacts of the communication among the UNESCO Water Family and to promote its outreach and visibility, to the widest possible range of stakeholders, water professionals, and the public." (IHP/IC-XXIII/Ref.10²)

35. Between June and March 2020, the Committee has convened in two teleconferences in November 2019 and February 2020. The IHP Secretariat has continuously increased the Programme's visibility by improving communication and outreach activities. IHP's webpages have been updated and its presence on social media increased. Close collaboration with the Natural Science Sector's communication team and the Department for Public Information continues, has helped to enhance IHP's communication and outreach activities within UNESCO's framework.

In the aforementioned reporting period, the general Water Security website (<https://en.unesco.org/themes/water-security>) received 19,608 visits [*number pending confirmation*]. The IHP website (<https://en.unesco.org/themes/water-security/hydrology>) received 13,082 visits.

36. IHP has been featured on social media accounts, Facebook and Twitter, of different UNESCO partners, as well as on the photo-platform Flickr through dedicated albums of the UNESCO Natural Sciences account and the IHP/Water Family account³. The Twitter account @unescoWATER, managed by the IHP Secretariat since February 2018, counted as of 1 October 2020 to 13th September 2021, 988 new followers, 11,957 profile visits, and 132.9k views, a marked increase compared to previous page performance in previous reporting. The twitter analysis also shows figures that indicate low audience engagement (likes, retweets, etc) albeit high content views. It is proposed to improve this by:

- Increasing the frequency of tweets (ongoing).
- Making tweets more strategic by tagging partners. In this way partners and water family members are notified when a tweet is put up and are encouraged to like, retweet, retweet with comments, etc.
- Putting up tweets that are not only event based but also crafting IHP key messages in appealing and interactive ways that attract audience participation, for instance in forms of polls, quizzes and 'did you know' question and answer formats etc.
- The increased use of graphics, audio and other visual content.

These and other communications activities are been taken up by IHP's recently recruited communications staff.

² https://en.unesco.org/sites/default/files/ic-xxiii_ref_10_for_communication_and_outreach_committee.pdf

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

37. The UNESCO Water Youtube playlist ⁴ currently includes 33 videos, with over 116,792 views. All communication material, including the IHP information kit, is available on the following webpages:

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

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

38. While certain challenges identified in previous reports as well as in the Mid-term Evaluation of IHP-VIII⁵ are being addressed, others remain:

a. To address IHP's need for better visibility and a more proactive approach to communication, experienced temporary staff was recruited in June and August 2021, effectively complementing the IHP Secretariat's work in the domain of communication. Communication expertise on a continuous basis will enhance established, dynamic workflows (e.g. on events communication and slow time communication) and secure the implementation of the Communication and Outreach Strategy.

b. Coordinated action of the Communication and Outreach Committee and full commitment of its members would significantly strengthen IHP's visibility, for instance by engaging with members of the UNESCO Water Family throughout the Regions. However, Member States would need to step up their commitment to the Communication and Outreach Committee and increase IHP-related communication and outreach action at large. Regular participation in the Committee's work is indispensable.

39. The members of the new Communication and Outreach Committee are to be elected at the 5th Extraordinary session of the IHP Council, immediately following the 41st session of the UNESCO General Conference.

Actions expected by the Council:

To take note of the report, encourage National Committees, Focal Persons in the regions and partners in their interaction with the Secretariat and recommend the active involvement in the incoming Communication and Outreach Committee.

⁴ https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWuYED1WVJIPVOr5RZ6GfS_RuVyVSK-4-

⁵ <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000369966>, p.4: "...communications and outreach should be treated as priorities, which translates into dedicating more (human and financial) resources to this endeavour. A more proactive approach to communications is needed as it is important to improve the visibility of the IHP". See also Recommendation 10 of the same document, in its Annex p.3.