

# Unity and Human Relations

**P**rofessors and consultants. Business professionals and government officials. Expertise in health, biodiversity, economics, trade, and more. Hailing from 123 countries and from significantly different backgrounds, IAIA members are a diverse group. But what brings our membership together, unifies us, is our collective interest in impact assessment and the value we gain from learning how others approach it.

The IAIA09 logo is the Adinkra symbol of unity and human relations, and it has inspired the theme of this year's annual report. In the past twelve months, IAIA has done much to bring people together and to encourage human relations.



The IAIA09 Adinkra symbol represents a chain link, which reminds us to contribute to the community – that in unity lies strength.

IAIA's newsletter and journal bring professional news from one of us to the other, and the web site links all that we do as an organization to other like-minded affiliates and associated organizations. In fact, IAIA hired a webmaster in 2008 and upgraded

our database with the ongoing goal to bring together impact assessment professionals through increased functionality and usefulness of technology. And of course, the IAIA08 conference and the Cumulative Effects special meeting brought impact assessment professionals face-to-face, sharing and disseminating information with a human touch. The highlight of IAIA08 was made possible by the generosity of donors who brought impact assessment professionals from developing countries to Perth for the conference, all of whom were unified in their desire to learn more about impact assessment.



How can you, as an IAIA member, contribute to unity and human relations within the field of impact assessment?

- ❧ Improve your skills in assessment by keeping abreast of the latest tools and techniques through continued membership in IAIA.
- ❧ Enable others to become members by including a small donation with your dues.
- ❧ Offer your professional news to the newsletters and your professional papers to IAPA.
- ❧ Maintain high professional standards and conduct in all that you do.

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# Unity Through Diversity: Capacity Building Stipend Program

At the end of the IAIA00 conference in Hong Kong, the Program Chair, Elvis Au, was asked what he would have done differently in organizing IAIA00. Elvis replied, "I would have liked to have been in a position to invite more people from developing countries who would like to have come but could not because of lack of funding."

What does Elvis' comment in 2000 have to do with IAIA in 2008? We see that Elvis' dream was realized. Due to four generous donors, IAIA brought 53 delegates from 33 developing countries to IAIA08 through the Capacity Building Stipend (CBS) program - people who may otherwise not have attended an international conference in Australia.

Through the years, the CBS and similar programs have increased the number of countries represented at IAIA conferences. Where we used to have an average of 70 countries represented, we now regularly have delegates from nearly 90 countries attend.

Part of IAIA's mission is to further the development of capacity in impact assessment, and the CBS program is doing just that. Former CBS recipient Asferachew Abate returned from an IAIA conference and helped to establish an Ethiopian association for impact assessment. The organization is young and run by volunteers, but it is making a difference. "We are providing resource materials for professionals to help them conduct EIA studies more effectively," says Abate. "Most of the materials we are using in our resource centre are obtained through my participation at IAIA conferences."

In 2008, Tamara Maricic, a Serbian CBS recipient in IAIA06 and IAIA08, co-authored one of the first books about SEA in her region. It is written in the Serbian language, which is understood by experts in Bosnia, Montenegro, and Croatia. She presented papers on planning at conferences in Austria and Serbia in 2009. "Both the book and the papers were strongly influenced by my participation at IAIA06 and IAIA08 and the training courses I took there," said Maricic. "The CBS program is a great opportunity for people from developing and transitional countries who otherwise couldn't participate in such a fantastic event," she said.

While the CBS program has obvious benefits for the recipients, it benefits all conference participants, too. More diverse experiences shared at the conference move us all toward the common goal of learning the best practices in impact assessment, whether it is conducted in Canada or Cambodia.

## CBS recipients receive

- Funding for air travel
- Travel insurance
- Carbon offset expense for the flight
- Hotel accommodation
- Visa fees
- A modest daily allowance for meals and miscellaneous expenses
- Conference registration fee
- Training course
- Technical visit

And finally, to continue the capacity building beyond the one-off event of the conference, recipients also receive a three-year membership to IAIA, allowing them to continue networking, learning, and sharing.



A sincere thank-you to our IAIA08 CBS Donors for making it possible: Swedish EIA Centre (supported by the Swedish International Development Agency), Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway's Oil for Development Program (NORAD), GTZ/Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

*Out of 132 applications  
IAIA received for IAIA09,  
we could fund 53.*

*Do you know any  
companies or agencies  
that might be interested  
in the CBS program so  
we can fund a larger  
percentage next year?*

*For a one-page  
summary of the CBS  
program or for a full  
funding proposal,  
contact Shelli Schneider  
(info@iaia.org).*

# Ideals in Human Relations

We encourage you, our members, to make a personal pledge of commitment to human relations and professional integrity through IAIA's Professional Code of Conduct. Approved by the IAIA Board in 2007, the Code was presented to IAIA members for implementation at the 2008 Annual General Meeting. The Code of Conduct (see Appendix B) is included in a four-page document outlining IAIA's mission, vision, values, and ethical responsibilities. You can find the entire document at [www.iaia.org](http://www.iaia.org) > About IAIA. The IAIA Professional Code of Conduct is included on new member application forms and in member renewal packets. Or, if you don't want to wait until you renew your membership to sign, contact Shelli ([info@iaia.org](mailto:info@iaia.org)) for a form.

Treating others the way we want to be treated – positive human relations at its core.



## Improving Human Relations with Technology

Technology often seems cold and impersonal, but for an international organization with almost 1,700 members, it is the most efficient way for IAIA to regularly reach out worldwide and bring environmental professionals together.

In February 2008, we made our technological outreach even more personable by hiring our own in-house web developer. In addition to working on the two conference web sites and proceedings, Jeff Torreson has been improving both the framework and navigation of our current site. Progressively, he is working to make it easier for people to find the web site and connect with IAIA, and also to make it faster and easier to find the information you need once you are there.

In September 2008, IAIA was pleased to make another technology change. We converted to a new database system for managing memberships. While we are still working with the database provider to accommodate all of our needs and preferences, there are many internal benefits to staff in terms of efficiency and productivity which help us serve you better.

Equally as important, there are several external benefits to you, our members as well:

- ⑧ Access members-only pages more easily to update your contact and directory information, change your password, etc.
- ⑧ Always know your membership status – your expiration date appears once you log in.
- ⑧ Find IAIA members faster with greater search functionality of the online directory.
- ⑧ Be confident the directory information is up-to-date and correct, as members input their information directly and in real-time.
- ⑧ Register more easily and efficiently for conferences online.

We haven't had a chance yet to explore or implement all the many additional features of the new system, and we look forward to sharing them with you in the future as we continue to use technology to bring together environmental professionals worldwide around the issue of impact assessment.

# Human Relations: What IAIA Conferences Are All About!

IAIA held two conferences in 2008. The annual conference, “The Art and Science of Impact Assessment,” was held in Perth, Australia, in May with 748 environmental professionals attending. The event successfully drew new people to IAIA, with 31% becoming new IAIA members. About 25% of the delegates participated in training courses and 40% in technical visits, so there was some serious learning and networking occurring! This conference drew attention to the often overlooked reality that impact assessment cannot be done successfully with only application of the best methodology, but it needs the human aspect – the “art” of impact assessment – as well.

A second opportunity for IAIA members to interact face-to-face was a special topical meeting on cumulative effects assessment. There is concern worldwide about the effects that multiple development projects can have. For the 345 delegates who met in Calgary, Canada, in November, this meeting provided an opportunity to share the challenges and dilemmas faced by those involved with cumulative effects assessment and to highlight work advancing this methodology. With 54% of the delegates new to IAIA, many fresh faces contributed to the discussions.

Did you miss one or both meetings? Visit [www.iaia.org](http://www.iaia.org) for the conference proceedings.

## Our Membership: Opportunities to Relate to Others

IAIA membership grew by 15% from 2007 to 2008. On 31 December 2007, we had 1,450 members, and one year later, IAIA membership was 1,652.

Decreases in Europe, Asia, and South America membership were offset by expected jumps in membership from Australia/Oceania and North America due to the IAIA meetings in Australia and Canada. A complete list of IAIA's membership by country is in Appendix A.

In addition to the direct members of IAIA, many of you were able to interact locally and regionally through IAIA's affiliates and branches.

Region	Members	Percent
North America	583	35%
Europe	349	21%
Australia & Oceania	271	16%
Africa	209	13%
Asia	207	13%
South America	33	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,652</b>	

### IAIA Affiliates

- Eastern Africa Association for Impact Assessment (EAAIA) (pilot)
- IAIA-Ghana
- IAIA-Italia (pilot)
- Korean Society of Environmental Impact Assessment (KSEIA)
- New Zealand Association for Impact Assessment (NZIA)
- Ontario Association for Impact Assessment (OAIA)
- Associação Portuguesa de Avaliação de Impactes (APAI)
- Association québécoise pour l'évaluation d'impacts (AQEI)
- IAIA South Africa (IAIASa)
- Asociación Española de Evaluación de Impacto Ambiental (AEEIA)
- IAIA Western & Northern Canada (IAIA-WNC)

### IAIA Branches

- Washington (DC) Area Branch
- Ireland-UK Branch

*“My primary motivation to attend IAIA conferences is the consistent quality of the program and the opportunity to meet world leaders in impact assessment face to face, as well as to network with colleagues from around the world. I usually come with specific questions and leave with specific answers.”*

*“I am sorry it took me until 2008 to get to an IAIA conference and hope to be able to be more active in the future.”*

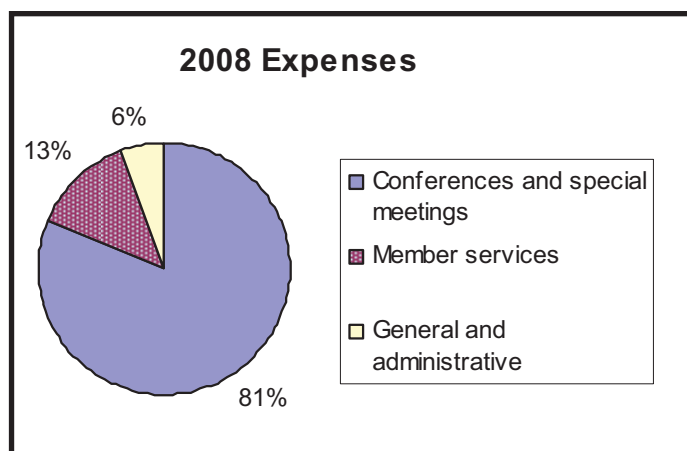
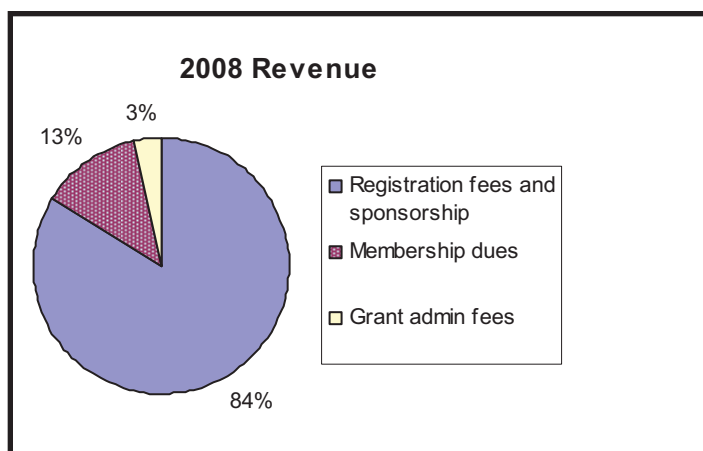


# Financial Report for 2008

## Alan Kwok, Treasurer

I am pleased to report that IAIA continues to be in a healthy financial position. Net assets as of 31 December 2008 were US\$ 1,189,366, a modest 8.5% increase over 2007 mainly from the two conferences in Perth and Calgary.

Similar to last year, conference fees and membership dues accounted for 97% of IAIA's 2008 revenue. As treasurer, I would like to sincerely thank the organizers, sponsors and participants of the conferences, as well as all the members for making 2008 another successful year. I also look forward to your continued support in 2009.



For 2009, we have set a conservative budget comparable to that for 2008, with modest adjustments for inflation. The annual conference continues to account for most of the Association's annual expenditure. Other major expenses in 2009 would include publishing of the newsletters and journals, and computer support on IAIA's web-related services that aim at serving our members better and more efficiently.

I take this opportunity to sincerely thank our IAIA headquarters staff for running the association, organizing the conferences, and serving the Board and all the members so efficiently on a tight budget. They do this day in and day out, gracefully and with the highest level of professionalism.

## Relating to Our Members with New Services

In 2008, we modified our membership categories to reach out to more people and to better fit with our current members.

Now you can choose to receive the IAPA journal in an electronic format only, or pay an additional US\$25 per year to receive paper copies as well. A US\$30 Associated Individual membership category was added for those who may not be directly involved with impact assessment on a day-to-day basis but who still want to keep in touch with the latest techniques and developments.

And there are now two different corporate membership levels to better serve your company's goals and needs. Visit the "About IAIA" page at [www.iaia.org](http://www.iaia.org) for a complete comparison chart of member benefits by category.

# IAIA Membership by Country

31 December 2008

## Country ..... Members

Canada .....	397
Australia .....	227
USA .....	149
United Kingdom .....	103
South Africa .....	41
Norway .....	30
New Zealand .....	29
The Netherlands .....	29
Japan .....	27
Vietnam .....	24
Kenya .....	23
Italy .....	21
Sweden .....	21
China-PRC .....	20
Ghana .....	20
Tanzania .....	20
Mexico .....	18
Nigeria .....	18
Spain .....	18
Germany .....	17
India .....	17
Zambia .....	15
Brazil .....	13
Thailand .....	13
Finland .....	12
Philippines .....	12
Republic Of Korea .....	12
China-SAR .....	11
Uganda .....	11
Ethiopia .....	10
Ireland .....	10
Switzerland .....	10
Denmark .....	9
Mozambique .....	9
Laos .....	8
Iceland .....	7
Nepal .....	7
Peru .....	7
United Arab Emirates .....	7
Botswana .....	6
Croatia .....	6
Czech Republic .....	6
France .....	6
Malaysia .....	6
Namibia .....	6
Pakistan .....	6
Portugal .....	6
Albania .....	5
Angola .....	5
Belgium .....	5
Poland .....	5
Sri Lanka .....	5
Trinidad & Tobago .....	5
Argentina .....	4
Austria .....	4
Cambodia .....	4
Costa Rica .....	4
Egypt .....	4
Singapore .....	4
Barbados .....	3
Guatemala .....	3

**Total Members ..... 1,652**

## Country ..... Members

Indonesia .....	3
Madagascar .....	3
Mongolia .....	3
Samoa .....	3
Saudi Arabia .....	3
Serbia .....	3
Armenia .....	2
Belarus .....	2
Bulgaria .....	2
Cameroon .....	2
Colombia .....	2
Ecuador .....	2
Fiji Islands .....	2
Honduras .....	2
Iran .....	2
Kosovo .....	2
Macedonia .....	2
Malawi .....	2
Mali .....	2
Micronesia .....	2
Morocco .....	2
Rwanda .....	2
Suriname .....	2
Timor-Leste .....	2
Zimbabwe .....	2
Afghanistan .....	1
Azerbaijan .....	1
Bahrain .....	1
Bangladesh .....	1
Benin .....	1
Bolivia .....	1
Burkina Faso .....	1
China .....	1
Cook Islands .....	1
Dominican Republic .....	1
Estonia .....	1
Greece .....	1
Guinea-Bissau .....	1
Guyana .....	1
Hungary .....	1
Jamaica .....	1
Jordan .....	1
Kiribati .....	1
Kuwait .....	1
Lebanon .....	1
Malta .....	1
Mauritania .....	1
New Caledonia .....	1
Romania .....	1
Russia .....	1
Slovakia .....	1
Slovenia .....	1
Solomon Islands .....	1
Sudan .....	1
Syria .....	1
Taiwan R.O.C. ....	1
Tunisia .....	1
Tuvalu .....	1
Ukraine .....	1
Uruguay .....	1
Yemen .....	1

**Total Countries ..... 122**

As a self-ascribed professional member of IAIA, the information and services that I provide must be of the highest quality and reliability. I consequently commit myself:

1. To conduct my professional activities with integrity, honesty, and free from any misrepresentation or deliberate bias.
2. To conduct my professional activities only in subject areas in which I have competence through education, training, or experience. I will engage, or participate with, other professionals in subject areas where I am less competent.
3. To take care that my professional activities promote sustainable and equitable actions as well as a holistic approach to impact assessment.
4. To check that all policies, plans, activities, or projects with which I am involved are consistent with all applicable laws, regulations, policies and guidelines.
5. To refuse to provide professional services whenever the professional is required to bias the analysis or omit or distort facts in order to arrive at a predetermined finding or result.
6. To disclose to employers and clients and in all written reports, any personal or financial interest that could reasonably raise concerns as to a possible conflict of interest.
7. To strive to continually improve my professional knowledge and skills and to stay current with new developments in impact assessment and my associated fields of competence.
8. To acknowledge the sources I have used in my analysis and the preparation of reports.
9. To accept that my name will be removed from the list of self-ascribed professional members of IAIA should I be found to be in breach of this code by a disciplinary task-group constituted by the IAIA Board of Directors to consider any complaint lodged against my professional conduct.



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