

IAIA Publications Committee Report to the Board of Directors

April 2008

2007-2008 Committee Members

Bill Ross (Chair beginning 08), Canada (1st year)
Charlotta Faith-Ell (Board Liaison/Interim Co-chair), Sweden

Jos Arts, The Netherlands (1st year)
Irena Brnada, Croatia (1st year)
Daniel Bronstein, USA (2nd year)
Miguel Coutinho, Portugal (1st year)
Richard Grasseti, USA (3rd year)
Ben Harris-Roxas, Australia (2nd year)
Galina Ivanova, Australia (1st year)
Maria Rosario Partidario (IAPA Editorial Board Chair), Portugal
Young-II Song, Korea (2nd year)
Collins Norberth Chinedu Ugochukwu, Germany) (1st year)
Maya Villaluz, Philippines (1st year)
Jennifer Howell, IAIA Headquarters support/interim co-chair

General review of responsibilities of the Publications Committee:

The IAIA Publications Committee has overall responsibility for overseeing IAIA publications activities, excepting those directly pertaining to the annual meeting, to the content of the journal (IAPA), and other specific events. The Publications Committee is responsible for other IAIA publications including the Newsletter, promotional materials, the Web site, the listservs, and the Key Citation lists.

The journal, *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal*, has a separate editorial board responsible for advising the journal editors and the Publications Committee on matters relating to the content of the Journal.

Proposals to the Board of Directors

The Committee has no proposals at this time.

Current and Ongoing Activities of the Committee 2007-2008

Completed

1. Discontinued inactive listservs (Environmental Law and Ethics).
2. Provided disclaimer text to the Capacity Building for Biodiversity in Impact Assessment (CBBIA) project coordinators regarding notification of credit on CBBIA guidance documents.

Current/Ongoing

1. Bill Page to ensure that IAPA Online instructions offer the option for either online or e-mail submissions.

2. Recruit volunteers for Newsletter Network Contributors. Responsible: Entire committee.
3. The IAIA newsletter will add a permanent call for submissions and request for citations for IAPA. Completed/ongoing. Responsible: HQ.
4. Review and update the information and instructions for all news contributors as appropriate. Completed/ongoing. Responsible: HQ.
5. Follow up with Fuggle and Grassetti and/or the Board of Directors regarding the status of the activity to identify appropriate publics to target with IAIA publications and, from the results, identify whether additional publications might be necessary. Ongoing (with Board), in conjunction with strategic planning. Responsible: HQ.
6. Define the Publications Committee's role, responsibility, and policy in taking the lead to develop and maintain the Principles and Practice series. Responsible: Jos and Collins, with Maria's assistance. Bill will join the group as work duties permit.
7. Further develop the proposal presented in Seoul to use wiki software to develop Position Papers (SAP U14). Lead: Richard.
8. Monitor listserv activity and develop a strategy for their development and effective use. Lead: Ben.
9. Formulate a policy for the future update of key citations not specifically associated with an IAIA Section. Responsible: Maria, Jos, Collins, Maya, Dan and Bill.
10. Develop an update schedule for key IAIA documents available on the website, to include, at least: Key Citations, Guidelines and Principles documents, Special Publications. Responsible: Charlotta, Irena, Dan and Young-il.
11. Identify key documents and/or Web pages to be provided in several languages.
 - a. Identify primary languages. Responsible: Charlotta, Galina, Miguel and Bill.
 - b. Marina Khouteleva (Board Director) will identify countries or regions that would benefit from hard copy delivery of resource materials. Preliminary research completed; see preliminary report appended.
 - c. Identify two individuals for each document/language. Responsible: Entire committee
12. Recruit committee members for 2008-2009 to replace Ben Harris-Roxas, Dan Bronstein, and Richard Grassetti, who are stepping down.

Anticipated additional tasks in 2008-2009

1. There may be an action upcoming to develop or a glossary of terms. Further details may be provided by Bernice Goldsmith.
2. Review updated Web site and publications, including membership brochure and newsletter.
3. Other tasks as requested by the Board or others.

Identification of countries or regions that would benefit from hard copy delivery of resource materials

Preliminary report prepared by Marina Khouteleva based on interviews she conducted with several experts. As needed or as appropriate for follow-up or additional feedback, Marina is willing to send a questionnaire (50 questionnaires) in May 2008.

Screening investigation of regional needs on hard copies of resource materials included: interviews with selected EIA experts/professionals (10 experts in 2 countries). The screening investigation based on the following assumptions:

- The target group is EIA professionals including companies' EHS staff, local consultancies and freelance consultants, competent authorities, NGOs professionally focused on EIA issues. students;
- The target audience has regular access to Internet;
- The group has advanced computer skills and proper software.

The needs on hard copies could be caused by:

- Limited Internet access in removed areas (for example, Russian North). Usually, good I-net access through corporate networks (mostly, for big companies but authorities). Sometimes this access supposes limitations on volume of information received (MB). The private access could be organized through modem and be limited by poor phone networks providing slow and unreliable connection.
One has take into account that in removed areas the regular mail is slow (and sometimes unreliable) option as well.
- Cultural sensitivity. Considerable part of professional group prefers using hard copies for example, elder generation (after 40); academicians; sometimes younger generation. Libraries are another users of hard copy materials that is in culture in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Central Asian and Caucasus countries.

To conclude, e-copies are considering as the main option for EIA practitioners. The hard copies are useful as an additional option. Key limitations for this option are additional costs and mail service limitations in some areas.