



INQUA 2024 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In 2024, the International Union for Quaternary Research (INQUA) continued its activities and facilitated numerous projects and workshops aimed at advancing research and knowledge in Quaternary science.

INQUA Foundation

At the end of 2024, INQUA launched a new website, featuring an updated design, improved navigation, and enhanced accessibility. The revamped platform aims to provide researchers and the public with easier access to resources, publications, and information on upcoming events, further supporting collaboration and knowledge-sharing within the Quaternary science community. Additionally, in 2024, the foundation finalized the processes to transfer its bank accounts from Belgium to the Netherlands.

INQUA Executive Committee

In February 2024, the INQUA Executive met in-person in Athens, Greece to discuss issues related to the organization (see also INQUA Secretary-General Report).

Procedures were conducted to fill the vacant vice-presidency position. We received three applications, conducted interviews and appointed Dr. Sebastian Richiano, CONICET (Argentina), as the new vice-president.

The XXII INQUA Congress 2027

The INQUA delegation scheduled a visit to the venue for the XXII INQUA Congress 2027 in February 2024. The President of the XXI INQUA Congress 2027 provides regular updates to the Executive Committee.

INQUA Secretariat

Aritina Haliuc continues to serve INQUA as a secretary on a freelance basis.

INQUA Project Funding

In 2024, INQUA received 21 Project applications and 6 were awarded. In addition, INQUA approved the continuation of 5 multi-year projects started in 2023.

A mid-term INQUA IRN (Project) meeting took place in July, with presentations by the project leaders. Commission Presidents, the secretary, and the VP of Commissions participated in this meeting.

INQUA Fellowship Program

The INQUA Fellowship Program financially supports early-career scientists (ECRs) and scientists from low- and middle-income countries/developing countries (DCRs) to gain international quaternary research experience at a foreign institution for 3-6 months. In 2024, INQUA received 43 applications; 6 were awarded.

A welcome meeting and a concluding fellowship meeting were held.

INQUA Publications

Our INQUA/Elsevier journal Quaternary International published 36 issues in 2024. In mid-2024, Prof. Pierluigi Pieruccini was appointed as the new editor-in-chief. The INQUA/Elsevier Journal, entitled Quaternary Environment and Humans, reached over 100 submissions, with 6 issues published.

INQUA's Newsletter, Quaternary Perspectives, published two issues in 2024, with many exciting contributions reporting on ongoing projects.

The INQUA Monthly Newsletter publishes 12 issues per year, compiling up-to-date information in the field.

INQUA Participation in International Initiatives in 2024

INQUA is affiliated with other international scientific unions/organisations and supports several global initiatives. INQUA is a full member of and active within the **International Science Council** (ISC). INQUA Executive members attended meetings of the ISC - GeoUnions and the Delegate meeting of the **Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research** (SCAR). INQUA participated in the General Assembly of The Earth-Humanity Coalition.

INQUA is part of **the International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development, 2024-2033 (IDSSD)**. The Commission on Geoheritage (ICG) of the International Union of

Geological Sciences (IUGS) initiated a successful initiative, the identification and recognition of iconic geologic sites. INQUA is one of the partners of the project and coordinates the submission of Quaternary sites and plays a role in the selection of the submitted Quaternary Geoheritage site proposal. The 2nd 100 Geological Heritage Sites book was published in 2024.

The collaborative **INQUA-PAGES meeting** took place in November in Goa, India. The workshop brought together early career researchers (ECRs) investigating tropical climate hydrodynamics over various timescales in the Quaternary based on proxy data and climate models, with the common goal of bridging the gap between these two components of research and fostering collaboration. The meeting topic was: Tropical hydroclimate variability in the Quaternary: *Insights from proxies and models, and the way forward (TROPQUA)*. The meeting brought together over 40 participants from all over the world.

In cooperation with the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS), INQUA is planning an international event for Early Career Researchers (ECR). The objective is to organise an international event fostering dialogue and collaboration among young scientists from our organisations and focusing on *Changes in biodiversity and the evolution of present biomes*.

Rome, March 25 2025

Laura Sadori, INQUA President

