



International Association
of Hydrogeologists
the World-wide Groundwater Organisation
South African National Chapter

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IAH-SA
SYMPOSIUM
26 - 28 AUGUST 2026
Groundwater Quality

STIAS CONFERENCE CENTRE | STELLENBOSCH



Programme Highlights

Groundwater quality is taking centre stage globally, making the IAH-SA Symposium the key gathering for the geoscience and water sectors this August. Under the theme **“Groundwater Quality: Assessment, Emerging Challenges and Sustainable Solutions”**, the programme opens with keynote speaker **Dr. Feifei Cao (IGRAC)**, who will present the latest international research highlighting declining groundwater levels in nearly a third of monitored wells across 47 countries and the implications for water security, food production, ecosystems and infrastructure.

The scientific programme covers a wide range of current groundwater challenges, including municipal water supply, coastal aquifer management, mining impacts, industrial contamination, fracking in the Karoo, Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR), isotope applications and groundwater monitoring. The programme brings together leading researchers and practitioners to share practical solutions and the latest scientific developments.

The symposium also includes a pre-symposium **PHREEQC modelling course**, a field excursion to the **Cape Flats Managed Aquifer Recharge Scheme**, and networking opportunities at STIAS and the Symposium Dinner at La Pineta.

Register now and take advantage of the early bird registration rates before the deadline.



Dr Feifei Cao



Symposium Field Trip: Cape Flats Aquifer Management Scheme

Join us on a guided field trip to one of South Africa's most significant groundwater projects – the **City of Cape Town's Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) Scheme**. Originally proposed in the 1970s, the Day Zero drought accelerated the development of this landmark R2 billion initiative to strengthen Cape Town's future water security.

The tour includes visits to key production, injection and water reclamation facilities, with a stop at the **False Bay Nature Reserve** overlooking Zeekoevlei, where participants will enjoy a packed lunch and hear about the role of groundwater in the hydrology of the area.

Returning to Stellenbosch via the **Philippi Horticultural Area**, delegates will see how groundwater supports one of Cape Town's most important food-producing regions before arriving back in time for the **Symposium Cocktail Party**.

The field trip is open to registered Symposium delegates only. Places are limited and advance booking is essential.

Symposium Dinner at La Pineta

Join fellow delegates, speakers and exhibitors for the Symposium **Welcome Dinner** on Wednesday, 26 August 2026 at **La Pineta Restaurant** in Stellenbosch.

The evening provides the perfect opportunity to reconnect with colleagues, meet new delegates and enjoy good food and conversation in one of the Stellenbosch area's best-known venues.



Register NOW to be part of the IAH-SA Symposium 2026

- ✓ Technical programme featuring leading groundwater experts
- ✓ Guided field trip to the Cape Flats Aquifer Management Scheme
- ✓ Symposium Dinner at La Pineta
- ✓ Networking with colleagues from across the groundwater sector

Early Bird

REGISTRATION

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION CLOSES ON 14 JULY 2026!

We encourage delegates to register before the deadline to take advantage of the reduced registration fees.

REGISTER *Now*

Visit our website for more information: <https://iah.org.za/symposium-2026/>

Event Organizer: Conferences et al – confetal2@iafrica.com