



THE 25TH CONGRESS OF THE ASIA AND PACIFIC DIVISION
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR HYDRO-ENVIRONMENT ENGINEERING AND RESEARCH

IAHR-APD 2026

Hydro-environments in the Era of Climate Change and AI

CONGRESS REPORT

OUTCOMES AND STATISTICS

19 – 22 July 2026

Songdo ConvensiA, Incheon, Republic of Korea

Organised by

IAHR-APD 2026 Local Organizing Committee

Hosted by Korea Water Resources Association (KWRA)

August 2026

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EVENT SUMMARY

1. About IAHR-APD

The International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research (IAHR) is a community of scholars and practitioners founded in 1935 as a global non-profit organisation responsible for promoting basic and applied research in hydraulics. It brings together more than 5,300 members across some 200 countries, together with its member organisations, and its fields of activity span water resources, rivers, the water environment and aquatic ecology.

The Asia and Pacific Division of IAHR (IAHR-APD) was formed in 1973 to advance knowledge of hydraulics and the proficiency of hydraulic professionals in addressing water problems in the region, and has been instrumental in the development of water engineering and in protecting the environment. It is one of six IAHR divisions, alongside the Africa, Europe, Latin America, Middle East and North Africa, and North America Divisions. As a principal activity of the Division, the biennial Congress has been convened since the first meeting in Bangkok in 1977 and continues to provide a medium for discussion among researchers on current questions in hydraulic research and engineering.

Host cities have included Bangkok, Taipei, Bandung, Chiang Mai, Seoul, Kyoto, Beijing, and, more recently, Yogyakarta (2018), Sapporo (2020), Chennai (2022), and Wuhan (2024).

IAHR-APD 2026 was the third Congress to be held in the Republic of Korea, following the 5th Congress in Seoul and the 18th Congress in Jeju in 2012, and marked a return to Korea after 14 years.

The objective of the 25th Congress was to bring together scientists, engineers and researchers to share their experience in hydro-environmental engineering at a time when the discipline is being reshaped by two forces at once: a changing climate and the rapid entry of artificial intelligence into hydrological and hydraulic practice.

2. Congress Host, Organizer and Supporting Bodies

2.1 Host

- International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research — Asia and Pacific Division
- Korea Water Resources Association (KWRA)

2.2 Organizer

- IAHR-APD 2026 Local Organizing Committee

2.3 Patron

- International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research
- Ministry of Climate, Energy and Environment, Republic of Korea
- National Institute of Environmental Research, Republic of Korea
- Korea Institute of Civil Engineering and Building Technology
- Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements
- Korea Environment Institute
- Korean Society of Civil Engineers
- Korean Society of Ecology and Infrastructure Engineering

2.4 Sponsors

Twenty-eight organisations provided sponsorship for the Congress. Broad participation from the domestic construction and engineering sector allowed the Congress to be delivered on a stable footing. A full list is given in Annex 2.

Sector	Organisations	Representative Sponsors
Public institutions and associations	3	Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power; K-water; Korea Environment Corporation
Construction companies	7	Hyundai E&C; HL D&I Halla; DL E&C; Kumho E&C; Kolon Global; Dongbu Corporation; POSCO E&C
Design and engineering firms	5	Saman; ISAN; Dohwa Engineering; Korea Engineering Consultants; Taejo
Small and medium-sized companies	13	GTE; Hycerg; HEC Korea; JCN; Hermesys; Youngjin; Kirim; ENS; Magpiesoft; Nature & Plan; Wise Plus; Eco & Geo; River & C
Total	28	

Table 2-1. Sponsoring organisations by sector

Support was further received from the Korea Tourism Organization, the Incheon Metropolitan City and the Incheon Tourism Organization.

3. About KWRA

The Korea Water Resources Association (KWRA) exists to advance scholarship concerning the waters of the earth and thereby to serve the public interest. It is an established learned society in the fields of water resources and disaster prevention, and works to meet the demands placed on those fields in the present century.

The principal undertakings of the Association are as follows.

- Research, education and guidance across all academic disciplines relating to water
- Publication of the Association journal, transactions and related technical works
- Convening of research meetings, lectures and colloquia, and the conduct of study visits at home and abroad
- Academic exchange with related societies in the Republic of Korea and overseas, and attendance at their meetings
- Technical research and analysis concerning water commissioned by government, public bodies and other institutions
- Awards and scholarship programs

The regular activities of the Association comprise conferences, lectures, seminars and symposia; an annual Hydraulic Engineering Workshop; field investigations of flood damage; the publication of the journal, transactions, reports and technical works; exchanges with related societies at home and abroad; site visits and inspections; and commissioned academic studies.

4. Venue

Songdo ConvensiA, 123 Central-ro, Yeonsu-gu, Incheon, Republic of Korea. The Congress occupied the Grand Ballroom A/B and six meeting rooms on the second floor of the new building, as well as Hall 1 on the first floor for the exhibition.



Songdo ConvensiA, Incheon

5. Number of Attendees

A total of 706 experts, scholars, and guests from 22 countries gathered in Incheon to examine water management under a changing climate and the role of artificial intelligence in the discipline. The participating countries are listed below.

706 PARTICIPANTS	22 COUNTRIES	587 PRESENTATIONS	42 SESSIONS
13 SPECIAL SESSIONS	5 KEYNOTE / INVITED	27 EXHIBITION BOOTHS	28 SPONSORS

5.1 Participating Countries

Australia	Indonesia	New Zealand	South Korea
Canada	Japan	Oman	Spain
China	Malaysia	Philippines	United Kingdom
Denmark	Mongolia	Poland	United States
France	Nepal	Portugal	
India	Netherlands	Singapore	

Table 5-1. Participating countries, in alphabetical order. Participants from Hong Kong and Macao are counted under China.

6. Theme

Hydro-environments in the Era of Climate Change and AI

The 25th IAHR-APD Congress addressed the questions that a changing climate poses for the hydro-environment, and asked what the water research community of the Asia-Pacific region can accomplish with artificial intelligence as a new instrument. The Congress sought to place the two subjects in the same room rather than in adjacent ones: climate adaptation supplies the problem, and data-driven modelling supplies a set of tools whose reliability the discipline is still establishing.

6.1 Topics

Submissions were invited under eight topic groups comprising twenty topics.

Track	Topics
A. Climate Change and Water Resources	A1. Climate Change Impact A2. Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation
B. Water for the Energy Transition, Food Security and Nature	B1. Water-Energy-Food Nexus B2. Integrated Water Management and Governance B3. Water-Ecosystems Nexus
C. Improving Resilience against Water Hazards and Disasters	C1. Urban Runoff & Flood Management C2. Urban Water Cycle and Sustainable Management C3. Hydro-Hazard Mitigation and Management
D. AI-driven Modeling of Hydrologic and Hydraulic Systems	D1. AI-Driven Modeling of Hydraulic Systems D2. AI-Driven Modeling of Hydrologic Systems D3. AI-Powered Hydroinformatics
E. Fluvial Processes and River Engineering	E1. Sediment and River Engineering E2. Hydraulic Structures E3. Experimental and Numerical Modeling
F. Environmental Hydraulics and Ecohydraulics	F1. Eco and Environmental Hydraulics F2. NbS for Flood Mitigation and Pollution Mitigation in River Catchments

Track	Topics
G. Estuarine and Coastal Hydraulics	G1. Coastal, Estuarine and Harbor Science and Engineering G2. Hydro-Kinetic Energy
H. Multi-scale Data Acquisition and Analysis Methods	H1. Remote sensing, Field Monitoring and Laboratory Measurement H2. Combined Observational and Analytical Methodologies

Table 6-1. Topic groups and topics

7. Committees

7.1 Advisory Boards

Two advisory boards were constituted for the Congress: an International Advisory Board of thirteen members, comprising IAHR office-holders and senior figures from across the Division and beyond, and a Local Advisory Board of seven senior members of the Korean water resources community.

International Advisory Board

Name	Affiliation
Gregory De Costa	Open Polytechnic, New Zealand
Robert Ettema	Colorado State University, USA
Marcelo Garcia	University of Illinois, USA
Philippe Gourbesville	President, IAHR
Yoshihisa Kawahara	Hiroshima University, Japan
Joseph Hun-Wei Lee	MUST, China
Akihiko Nakayama	Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, Malaysia
Jing Peng	IWHR, China
Il Won Seo	Seoul National University, Korea
Vallam Sundar	Indian Institute of Technology Madras, India
Hitoshi Tanaka	Tohoku University, Japan
Tetsuro Tsujimoto	Nagoya University, Japan
Hyoseop Woo	Yonsei University, Korea

Table 7-1. International Advisory Board

Local Advisory Board

Name	Affiliation
Deghyo Bae	Sejong University, Korea
Yong-Sik Cho	Hanyang University, Korea
Jun-Haeng Heo	Yonsei University, Korea
Joong Hoon Kim	Korea University, Korea
Sang-Il Lee	Dongguk University, Korea
Nam Sik Park	Dong-A University, Korea
Byungman Yoon	Myongji University, Korea

Table 7-2. Local Advisory Board

7.2 International Scientific Committee

The International Scientific Committee comprised thirty-four members drawn from fourteen countries and regions, and was responsible for the review of submitted abstracts and for advising on the composition of the scientific programme.

Name	Affiliation
Sannasi Annamalaisamy	Indian Institute of Technology Madras, India
Fabian Alejandro Bombardelli	University of California, Davis, USA
Ji Chen	The University of Hong Kong, China
Gregory De Costa	Open Polytechnic, New Zealand
Shao Dongdong	Beijing Normal University, China
Huan-Feng Duan	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, China
Jenn Wei Er	DHI Water & Environment Pte. Ltd., Singapore

Name	Affiliation
Mohamed Ghidaoui	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, China
Mingfu Guan	The University of Hong Kong, China
Morihiro Harada	Gifu University, Japan
Huu Loc Ho	Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand
Kyungsoo Jun	Sungkyunkwan University, Korea
Chang Chun Kiat	Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia
Won Kim	KICT, Korea
Young-Oh Kim	Seoul National University, Korea
Adrian Wing-Keung Law	National University of Singapore, Singapore
Joo-Heon Lee	Joongbu University, Korea
Pengzhi Lin	Sichuan University, China
Yongfeng Liu	Hohai University, China
Heidi Nepf	Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA
Vladimir Nikora	University of Aberdeen, UK
Joongcheol Paik	Gangneung-Wonju National University, Korea
Ellis Penning	Deltares, Netherlands
Yu Qian	IWHR, China
Jose Rodriguez	The University of Newcastle, Australia
Asaad Y. Shamseldin	The University of Auckland, New Zealand
Intan Supraba	Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia
Norio Tanaka	Saitama University, Japan

Name	Affiliation
Fang Yenn Teo	University of Nottingham Malaysia, Malaysia
Tatsuhiko Uchida	Hiroshima University, Japan
Catherine A. M. E. Wilson	Cardiff University, UK
Weiming Wu	Clarkson University, USA
Satoshi Yokojima	Shizuoka University, Japan
Chulsang Yoo	President, KWRA / Korea University, Korea
Yonghui Zhu	Changjiang River Scientific Research Institute, China

Table 7-3. International Scientific Committee, in alphabetical order

7.3 Local Organizing Committee

The Local Organizing Committee was chaired by Prof. Sung-Uk Choi (Yonsei University), supported by five Vice-Chairs. The Committee comprised 73 appointments in total (approximately 66 individuals excluding concurrent appointments), drawn from academia, public research institutes and the engineering industry. Secretariat functions were shared with the professional congress organiser, The Plan Co. In the rosters below, KICT denotes the Korea Institute of Civil Engineering and Building Technology.

Chair and Vice-Chairs

Role	Name	Affiliation
Chair	Prof. Sung-Uk Choi	Yonsei University
Vice-Chair	Prof. Jaehyun Ahn	Seokyeong University
Vice-Chair	Dr. Il-Moon Chung	KICT
Vice-Chair	Prof. Boosik Kang	Dankook University
Vice-Chair	Dr. Won Kim	KICT
Vice-Chair	Prof. Joongcheol Paik	Gangneung-Wonju National University

Table 7-4. Chair and Vice-Chairs

Composition of LOC

Body	Chair	Members	Principal Functions
Secretariat	Prof. Ju-Young Shin (Kookmin Univ.)	5	Overall administration, external liaison, communications, budget
Planning Committee	Prof. Tae-Woong Kim (Hanyang Univ.)	14	Master planning, promotion, Young Professionals Network
Scientific Committee	Prof. Joongcheol Paik (Gangneung-Wonju National Univ.)	16	Scientific programme, paper review
Finance Committee	Dr. Moon-Hyung Park (KICT)	16	Sponsorship, promotion
Events Committee	Prof. Young-Do Kim (Myongji Univ.)	16	Exhibition, event operation, on-site management, field trip

Table 7-5. Composition of the Local Organizing Committee



The IAHR-APD 2026 Local Organizing Committee

Secretariat

Role	Name	Affiliation
Secretary General	Prof. Ju-Young Shin	Kookmin University
Member	Dr. Seongwook Choi	KICT
Member	Prof. Dae-Hong Kim	University of Seoul
Member	Dr. Hyoseob Noh	Seoul National University
Member	Prof. Yong Sung Park	Seoul National University

Table 7-6. Secretariat

Planning Committee

Role	Name	Affiliation
Chair	Prof. Tae-Woong Kim	Hanyang University
Member	Dr. Si-Jung Choi	KICT
Member	Prof. Changhyun Jun	Korea University
Member	Prof. Doosun Kang	Kyung Hee University
Member	Dr. Hyeong-Sik Kang	Korea Environment Institute
Member	Prof. Woochul Kang	Kongju National University
Member	Dr. Jang-Gyeong Kim	BayesianWorks
Member	Prof. Seokhyeon Kim	Kyung Hee University
Member	Prof. Soojun Kim	Inha University
Member	Prof. Hyun-Han Kwon	Sejong University
Member	Dr. Dong-Jin Lee	KICT
Member	Prof. Seung Beom Seo	University of Seoul
Member	Prof. Do Guen Yoo	Suwon University

Role	Name	Affiliation
Member	Dr. Ji-Young Yoo	Suseong Engineering

Table 7-7. Planning Committee

Scientific Committee

Role	Name	Affiliation
Chair	Prof. Joongcheol Paik	Gangneung-Wonju National University
Member	Prof. Jungkyu Ahn	Incheon National University
Member	Prof. Seung Ho Hong	Hanyang University
Member	Prof. Eun-Mi Hong	Kangwon National University
Member	Prof. Chang-Lae Jang	Korea National University of Transportation
Member	Prof. Donghwi Jung	Korea University
Member	Prof. Dongkyun Kim	Hongik University
Member	Prof. Yeonjoo Kim	Yonsei University
Member	Prof. Yeulwoo Kim	Pukyong National University
Member	Prof. Giha Lee	Kyungpook National University
Member	Prof. Seong Jin Noh	Kumoh National Institute of Technology
Member	Prof. Daeryong Park	Konkuk University
Member	Prof. Yong Sung Park	Seoul National University
Member	Prof. Yong Uk Ryu	Chonnam National University
Member	Prof. Yong Won Seo	Yeungnam University
Member	Prof. Chang Geun Song	Incheon National University

Table 7-8. Scientific Committee

Finance Committee

Role	Name	Affiliation
Chair	Dr. Moon-Hyung Park	KICT
Member	Dr. Jeong-Hwan Ahn	Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power
Member	Mr. Jong-Nam Choi	Dohwa Engineering
Member	Prof. Seung Ho Hong	Hanyang University
Member	Prof. Hyeong-Seok Kim	Kunsan National University
Member	Mr. Hyung-Jun Kim	Saman Corporation
Member	Mr. Yang-Jae Lee	Hyundai Engineering & Construction
Member	Mr. Jong-Sung Lim	ISAN Corporation
Member	Mr. Yeon-Geun Oh	Yooshin Engineering
Member	Mr. Jin-Won Park	ISAN Corporation
Member	Prof. Jong-Min Park	Korea National University of Transportation
Member	Mr. Sang-Jin Park	Korea Engineering Consultants
Member	Prof. Yong Uk Ryu	Chonnam National University
Member	Mr. Yong-Kwon Seo	Dongbu Engineering
Member	Mr. Hyun-Wook Shin	Daewoo Engineering & Construction
Member	Mr. Seung-Beom Yang	Dongbu Engineering

Table 7-9. Finance Committee

Events Committee

Role	Name	Affiliation
Chair	Prof. Young-Do Kim	Myongji University
Member	Prof. Jungkyu Ahn	Incheon National University

Role	Name	Affiliation
Member	Prof. Gunhui Chung	Hoseo University
Member	Dr. Un Ji	KICT
Member	Prof. Sanghoon Jun	Chungnam National University
Member	Prof. Donghwi Jung	Korea University
Member	Prof. Young Hun Jung	Kyungpook National University
Member	Dr. Chang-Sung Kim	Korea Institute of Hydrological Survey
Member	Prof. Dongkyun Kim	Hongik University
Member	Prof. Dongsu Kim	Dankook University
Member	Prof. Jun-Song Kim	Hankyong National University
Member	Prof. Giha Lee	Kyungpook National University
Member	Dr. Jung-Sun Oh	KICT
Member	Prof. Inhwan Park	Seoul National University of Science and Technology
Member	Prof. Jaehyun Shin	Gachon University
Member	Prof. Chang Geun Song	Incheon National University

Table 7-10. Events Committee

OVERVIEW

8. Mission

The mission of the 25th IAHR-APD Congress was to serve the hydro-environment of the Asia-Pacific region at a moment when two developments are reshaping the discipline at once: a climate that no longer holds to the record on which practice was built, and a set of data-driven methods whose reach the field is still establishing. The Congress sought to bring the water research and engineering community of the region into one place; to set the experience of individual countries alongside one another rather than leaving it to circulate separately; and to create an occasion at which research findings, engineering practice and emerging methods could be examined in the same conversation.

9. Objectives

1. To provide a platform for exchange and cooperation in water science and technology across the Asia-Pacific region — to share water management policy and practical experience between countries, to make research findings available beyond the institutions that produced them, and to establish working relationships that outlast the Congress week.
2. To examine what a changing climate asks of the hydro-environment, and to set the adaptation and mitigation measures adopted in different countries of the region against one another so that their conditions of success can be understood.
3. To establish where artificial intelligence now stands as an instrument of hydrological and hydraulic practice — what it can be relied upon to do, where it supplements rather than replaces physical understanding, and which questions about its use remain open.
4. To support the next generation of researchers in the region through the Young Professionals Network programme, the Master Classes and the recognition of outstanding work, and so to sustain the community from which the Division draws.

10. Congress Format

Spanning four days, the Congress comprised three keynote sessions delivering five lectures, twenty-one oral sessions, fifteen special session slots covering thirteen Special Session topics, one High-Level Panel, three poster sessions, two Master Classes and two Young Professionals Network events. A total of 587 presentations were delivered, of which 242 were given orally and 345 by poster.

Session Type	Sessions	Duration (min)	Presentation (min)	Total Presentations
Keynote	3	45 – 90	30 – 45	5
Oral Session	21	90	11	157
Special Session	15	90	11 – 22	77
High-Level Panel	1	60	13	2
Poster Session	3	–	–	345
Total	42	–	–	587

Table 10-1. Composition of the scientific programme

Oral sessions ran in six parallel streams across six time slots. Poster sessions were scheduled during the morning and afternoon refreshment breaks on each day so that presenters and delegates would meet without a competing session running. Balancing subject matter across the parallel streams received particular attention: where similar topics are scheduled concurrently, delegates are obliged to forgo presentations they wish to attend, and accepted papers were therefore classified by subject and redistributed across time slots through several rounds of revision.

10.1 Subjects

Topic	Oral	Poster	Total
A1. Climate Change Impact	14	26	40

Topic	Oral	Poster	Total
A2. Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation	6	10	16
B1. Water-Energy-Food Nexus	1	8	9
B2. Integrated Water Management and Governance	8	24	32
B3. Water-Ecosystems Nexus	4	10	14
C1. Urban Runoff & Flood Management	14	27	41
C2. Urban Water Cycle and Sustainable Management	3	8	11
C3. Hydro-Hazard Mitigation and Management	19	42	61
D1. AI-Driven Modeling of Hydraulic Systems	5	5	10
D2. AI-Driven Modeling of Hydrologic Systems	7	25	32
D3. AI-Powered Hydroinformatics	8	10	18
E1. Sediment and River Engineering	8	19	27
E2. Hydraulic Structures	6	16	22
E3. Experimental and Numerical Modeling	16	18	34
F1. Eco and Environmental Hydraulics	8	30	38
F2. NbS for Flood and Pollution Mitigation in Catchments	1	2	3
G1. Coastal, Estuarine and Harbor Science and Engineering	14	12	26
G2. Hydro-Kinetic Energy	1	3	4
H1. Remote Sensing, Field Monitoring and Laboratory Measurement	9	39	48
H2. Combined Observational and Analytical Methodologies	5	11	16

Topic	Oral	Poster	Total
Total	157	345	502

Table 10-2. Distribution of oral and poster presentations by topic. Keynote, High-Level Panel and Special Session presentations are counted separately.

10.2 Programme Delivery

A full audit of non-attendance was conducted during the Congress. The no-show rate remained below 10 percent. Four no-shows were recorded in the oral and special sessions, and one substitute presenter was accepted; thirty-one posters were not mounted. The predominant cause was the inability of overseas presenters to enter the country following visa refusal. The Secretariat and the Korea Water Resources Association assisted with visa procedures wherever possible; the cases concerned were attributable to incomplete documentation submitted by the presenters themselves. No instances of non-attendance were attributable to programme administration or participant communication.

11. Registration and Participation

11.1 Participation

A total of 706 participants from 22 countries registered for the Congress across the three registration periods. Registration was administered online through the Congress website until 30 June 2026, and on-site at Songdo ConvensiA during the Congress itself.

11.2 Registration Fees

Category	Early Bird / Author (to 12 Jun)	Regular Online (to 30 Jun)	On-site (19–22 Jul)
IAHR Member	USD 700	USD 800	USD 800
Non-IAHR Member	USD 800	USD 900	USD 900
IAHR Member (low-income countries)	USD 500	USD 600	USD 600
Non-IAHR Member (low-income countries)	USD 600	USD 700	USD 700
Student	USD 400	USD 500	USD 500

Table 11-1. Registration fee schedule. Member status was verified with IAHR headquarters; the low-income country rate applied to a designated country list; the student rate applied up to doctoral level subject to proof of enrolment.

Reduced registration was granted to the two lead speakers of the High-Level Panel, to fourteen members of the IAHR-APD Executive Committee and to a French student group of fourteen. Complimentary registration was extended to the five keynote and invited speakers, five representatives of IAHR headquarters, the IAHR-APD President, eight delegates of the Asian River Restoration Network and eleven domestic senior scholars.

11.3 Preparatory Milestones

Milestone	Date
Abstract submission deadline	31 December 2025
Extended abstract submission deadline	31 January 2026 (final call: 13 February 2026)
Abstract acceptance notification	31 January 2026
Extended abstract acceptance notification	21 March 2026
Full paper submission deadline	20 May 2026 (extended)
Full paper acceptance notification	5 June 2026
Early-bird and author registration	1 February – 12 June 2026 (extended)
Regular online registration	13 – 30 June 2026
On-site registration	19 – 22 July 2026

Table 11-2. Preparatory milestones



12. Technical Tour

The technical tour was conducted on the third day of the Congress, 21 July 2026, at the Sihwa Lake Tidal Power Station. A single group was operated in accordance with final attendance, comprising 65 participants — 5 domestic and 60 international — including two escorts from the Local Organizing Committee. Attendance was restricted to those who had purchased tickets in advance.

Time	Programme
13:30	Assembly at Gate 1 and boarding
13:30 – 14:10	Transfer to Sihwa Tidal Power Station by coach
14:20 – 14:50	Introduction and question-and-answer session
15:00 – 15:30	Tour of the tidal power station and the Tidal Power Culture Pavilion
15:40 – 16:00	Moon Observation Tower
16:00 – 16:40	Return transfer to ConvensiA

Table 12-1. Technical tour itinerary

The route combined the education hall of the power station, the Tidal Power Culture Pavilion opened in 2025, the Moon Observation Tower and Naerae Tidal Park over approximately 140 minutes. Unexpected rainfall on the day gave rise to some concern, but the programme proceeded without disruption owing to thorough advance preparation. The opportunity to visit the world's largest tidal power facility, which generates 25,400 kW at flood tide, was particularly well received by international participants.

13. Exhibition

An exhibition of scientific and technological achievements in water-related fields was held on 20 and 21 July in Hall 1 on the first floor of Songdo ConvensiA, jointly with the Korea Smart Water Grid Association under a memorandum of understanding governing the division of responsibilities and costs between the two associations. Twenty-seven booths of 9 m² each were operated, with four exhibitor badges provided per booth. Learned societies, public institutions, industry and universities were all represented, and the exhibition became a place where research, practice and industry met in one room.

Sector	Exhibitors
Associations and international bodies	IAHR; Korean Society of Civil Engineers; Korean National Committee on Large Dams (KNCOLD); Korea River Association
Public institutions	KICT (two booths, including a dedicated IWRM-K platform booth); K-water; Korea Authority of Land and Infrastructure Safety (two booths)
Universities and research institutes	Graduate School Specialized in Climate Change, Kookmin University; Chungnam National University Industry-Academic Collaboration Foundation; Pukyong National University; Myongji University Industry and Academia Cooperation Foundation; Integrated Watershed Management Institute; Sangju Carbon Neutrality Center
Industry	Xylem Inc.; Dongbu Engineering; DONGMOON ENT; GEOSTORY; PS Global; JYSYSTEM; E Solutions; Infrastructure Disaster Navigation Agency; Shandong Oubiao Information Technology (China)
Platforms and publications	iRIC Software; River (journal); KWRAgent

Table 13-1. Exhibition participants by sector

KNCOLD operated a promotional booth ahead of the 95th ICOLD Annual Meeting to be held in 2027. KWRAgent, an AI agent project under development by the Korea Water Resources Association together with Korea University and Chungnam National University, attracted considerable interest among delegates.

PROCEEDINGS

14. Opening Ceremony

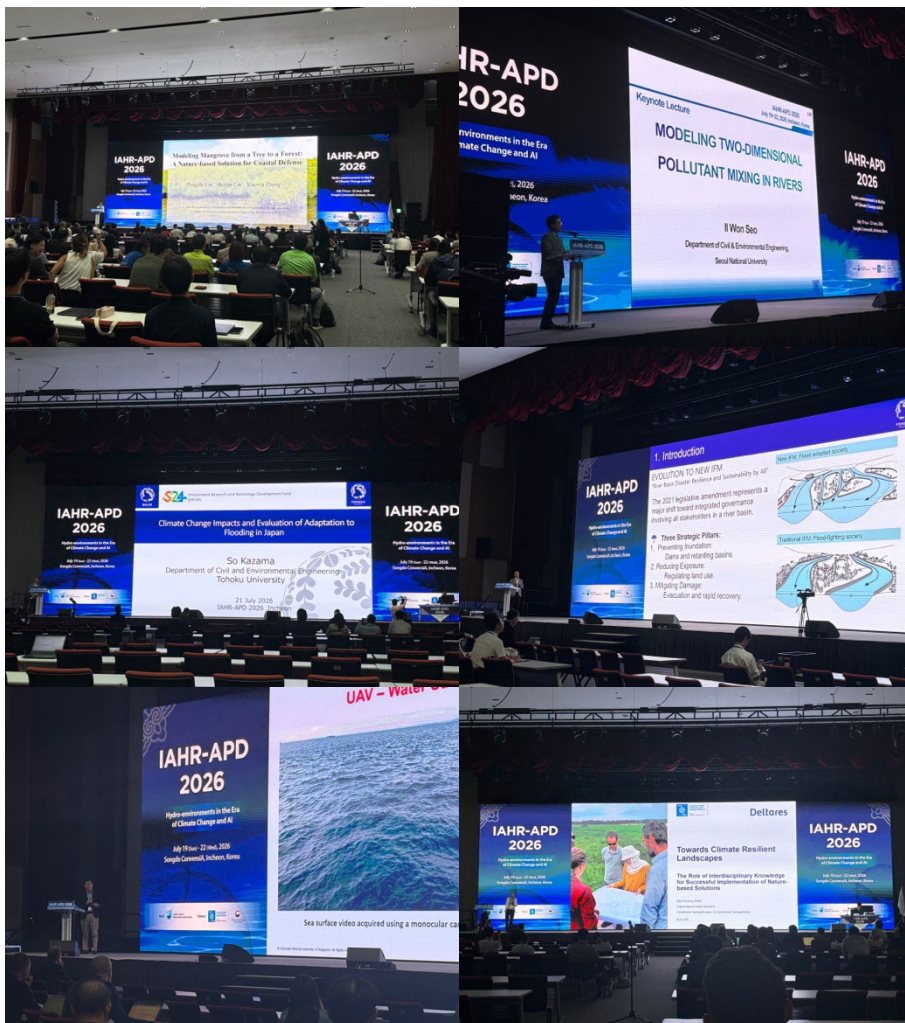
The 25th IAHR-APD Congress opened on 20 July 2026 in Grand Ballroom A/B at Songdo Convensia. Prof. Norio Tanaka, Chair of the IAHR-APD, delivered the opening address, followed by a welcome address from Prof. Sung-Uk Choi, Chair of the Local Organizing Committee. Congratulatory addresses were given on behalf of Mr. Sung-Hwan Kim, Minister of Climate, Energy and Environment, read by Mr. Seung-Hwan Lee, Director of the Han River Basin Environmental Office; by Prof. Philippe Gourbesville, President of the IAHR; and by Dr. Kye-Woon Choi, President of the Incheon Institute. Prof. Ju-Young Shin, Secretary General of the Local Organizing Committee, presided over the ceremony, which proceeded directly to the keynote programme following the commemorative photograph.



Opening Ceremony, 20 July 2026

15. Keynote and Invited Lectures

Five lectures were delivered across three keynote sessions in Grand Ballroom A/B, chaired by Prof. Woonchul Kang (Kongju National University). The speakers were from China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, and the Netherlands, and each compressed a long body of research experience into a single presentation. The third session was given by invited speakers.



Keynote and invited speakers

Session	Date and Time	Speaker	Affiliation
Keynote 1	20 July (Mon) 11:00 – 12:00	Prof. Pengzhi Lin	Sichuan University, China
		Prof. Il Won Seo	Seoul National University, Korea
Keynote 2	21 July (Tue) 09:00 – 09:45	Prof. So Kazama	Tohoku University, Japan
Keynote 3 (Invited)	22 July (Wed) 09:00 – 10:30	Prof. Adrian Law Wing Keung	National University of Singapore
		Dr. Ellis Penning	Deltares, Netherlands

Table 15-1. Keynote and invited lecture sessions. All sessions were held in Grand Ballroom A/B on the second floor.

15.1 Keynote Session 1

Modeling Mangrove from a Tree to a Forest: A Nature-based Solution for Coastal Defense

Prof. Pengzhi Lin — Distinguished Professor, Sichuan University, China

The lecture traced the modeling of mangroves from the scale of a single tree to that of a whole forest, and set out how such vegetation may be represented in coastal defense design as a nature-based alternative, or complement, to hard structures.

About the speaker

Prof. Lin holds the Chang-Jiang Scholars Program Distinguished Professorship at Sichuan University. He received his B.E. in Civil Engineering from Tianjin University in 1991, his M.S. from the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 1993, and his Ph.D. from Cornell University in 1998. His research concerns coastal, offshore and hydraulic engineering, and in particular the numerical modeling of water waves, turbulent free-surface flows and fluid–structure interaction. He has held academic appointments at Cornell University, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the National University of Singapore. He is a Member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts and serves as Editor-in-Chief of Applied Ocean Research.

Modeling Two-Dimensional Pollutant Mixing in Rivers

Prof. Il Won Seo — Emeritus Professor, Seoul National University, Republic of Korea

The lecture set out approaches to modelling the two-dimensional mixing of pollutants in rivers, addressing transverse dispersion and the estimation of the mixing coefficients on which the prediction of contaminant transport depends.

About the speaker

Prof. Seo is Emeritus Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Seoul National University. He earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Civil Engineering at Seoul National University and his Ph.D. in Hydrosystems Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1990. His research concerns the modeling of hydrodynamics and water quality in rivers, diffusion and dispersion processes, turbulent buoyant jets and plumes, ocean outfall design, and machine learning applied to water quality and sediment studies. His honors include the Songsan Grand Award of the Korean Society of Civil Engineers in 2020 and the Distinguished Faculty Award of Seoul National University in 2018.

15.2 Keynote Session 2

Climate Change Impacts and Evaluation of Adaptation to Flooding in Japan

Prof. So Kazama — Professor, Tohoku University, Japan

The lecture presented assessments of the effect of a changing climate on flooding in Japan, and the evaluation of adaptation measures against the flood risk those assessments project.

About the speaker

Prof. Kazama is Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Tohoku University, from which he received his B.E. in 1990 and his Ph.D. in 1995. He held positions at the University of Tsukuba and the Asian Institute of Technology before returning to Tohoku University, where he has been Professor since 2010. His research concerns hydrological modeling, climate change impact assessment, flood adaptation and ecohydrology. He serves as Vice President of the Japan Society of Hydrology and Water Resources.

15.3 Keynote Session 3 — Invited Speakers

Spatial Field Monitoring of Surface Hydrodynamics and Sediment Transport for Coastal Protection

Prof. Adrian Law Wing Keung — Professor, National University of Singapore

The lecture presented the spatial field monitoring of surface hydrodynamics and sediment transport, and considered how measurement at that scale informs the design of coastal protection.

About the speaker

Prof. Law has been Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the National University of Singapore since 2024. He holds Ph.D. and M.Sc. degrees in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, with specialisation in coastal and hydraulic engineering, and a B.Eng. in Civil Engineering from the University of Hong Kong. He practiced as a senior engineer in the United States for over seven years while pursuing graduate study, before joining the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore in 1995. He chaired the Joint IAHR/IWA Committee on Marine Outfall Systems from 2014 to 2016 and represented Singapore at the ASEAN Hydroinformatics Data Centre from 2022 to 2023. He is Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Hydro-environment Research and serves on the editorial boards of related technical journals.

Towards Climate Resilient Landscapes: The Role of Interdisciplinary Knowledge for Successful Implementation of Nature-Based Solutions

Dr. Ellis Penning — Deltares, Delft, Netherlands

The lecture argued that the successful implementation of nature-based solutions rests on knowledge drawn from several disciplines at once, and considered what that requirement asks of practice in building climate-resilient landscapes.

About the speaker

Dr. Penning is among the leading specialists in nature-based solutions at Deltares, where she conducts national and international projects on the subject. She holds an M.Sc. in Biology from Wageningen University and a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Delft University of Technology on the ecohydraulics of large shallow lakes. She has served as secretary of the Dutch Working Group on Ecological Water Management and as chair of the

International Steering Committee of the River Experiment Centre of the Korea Institute of Civil Engineering and Building Technology, and chairs the IAHR working group on Nature-based Solutions. She supervises M.Sc. and Ph.D. candidates and lectures at Dutch universities on nature-based solutions. She has served as guest editor of the Journal of Ecohydraulics, Hydrolink and Cambridge Prisms: Water.

16. High-Level Panel

A High-Level Panel entitled “Pumped Storage Hydropower: Development Pathways and Challenges in the Asian Region” was convened on 21 July by Prof. Hyoseop Woo of Yonsei University. The session addressed pumped storage hydropower — an option receiving renewed attention alongside the expansion of renewable energy — from the perspectives of hydraulic design, numerical modeling, environmental impact and social acceptance. It brought the experience and knowledge of the Asia-Pacific region to bear on the water–energy nexus, whose importance continues to grow under a changing climate.

Role	Participant	Contribution
Convener	Prof. Hyoseop Woo (Yonsei University)	Opening and session framing
Lead Speaker	Dr. Yunzhong Jiang (IWHR, China)	Pumped Storage Hydropower: A New Engine for High-Quality Water Development in China
Lead Speaker	Prof. Tetsuya Sumi (Kyoto University, Japan)	Current Status and Future Challenges of Pumped-Storage Hydropower in Japan
Panellist	Dr. Liang Chen (IWHR, China)	Expert panel intervention
Panellist	Dr. Takeshi Yoshimura (Kyoto University, Japan)	Expert panel intervention
Panellist	Dr. Cheul Jang (K-water, Republic of Korea)	Expert panel intervention

Table 16-1. High-Level Panel programme



High-Level Panel on pumped storage hydropower

17. Special Sessions and Side Events

Thirteen Special Sessions were established through an open call for proposals and delivered in fifteen session slots, comprising 77 presentations in total. Session SS02-2 was conducted as a discussion without formal presentations.

ID	Title	Convener
SS 01	Groundwater Systems Across Scales: Toward Sustainable Water Management under Climate Change	Sun Woo Chang
SS 02	Ecological Healthy River and Sustainable Social Development & 20th ARRN Governing Council Meeting	Jae-Kyoung Lee
SS 03	Multidisciplinary Research and Implementation Strategies for Nature-Based Flood Management	Un Ji
SS 04	Water Culture and River Ethics in Asia and the 4th Global River Symposium	Hyoseop Woo
SS 05	Advanced Hydroinformatics Technologies of Catchment Digital Twin: Strategy, Tools and Applications	Qiang Ma
SS 06	Advances in Wave Modeling and Coastal Structures	Young-Taek Kim
SS 07	Water Security under Climate Change	Intan Supraba
SS 08	Resilience against Flooding and Disasters in the Asia-Pacific Region	Norio Tanaka
SS 09	Hydro-Environmental Applications and Future Prospects of AI for Water Management	Sung Hoon Kim
SS 10	Advances in Flood Risk Modelling and Resilience	Mingfu Guan
SS 11	From the White River to Green River – Adaptation and Management in the Climate Change	Won Kim
SS 12	Hydroinformatics by & for Young Professionals	Morgan Abily

ID	Title	Convener
SS 13	Advancing Sponge Cities and Nature-Based Water Circulation for Climate and Extreme Weather Resilience	Lee-Hyung Kim

Table 17-1. Special Sessions

17.1 Side Events

Event	Date	Description
Master Class 1	19 July 10:00–13:00	The Future of CFD: Turbulence Modeling, Artificial Intelligence, and Quantum Computing — Prof. Joon Sang Lee (Yonsei University). 19 participants
Master Class 2	19 July 09:00–17:30	NbS for Flooding and Water Management Resilience — Dr. Ellis Penning (Deltares) and Dr. Un Ji (KICT). 8 participants
IAHR Council Meeting	19 July	Council of the International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research
IAHR-APD Council Meeting	19 July	Council of the Asia and Pacific Division
National Associations Meeting	19 July	Meeting of the presidents of national water associations
YPN: Meet the Leaders	21 July	YP–Senior Dialogue with Prof. Philippe Gourbesville and Prof. Il Won Seo as invited senior guests
YP Networking Night	21 July	Informal dinner and networking, open to participants who are not formal members of the IAHR Young Professionals Network

Table 17-2. Side events

The first Master Class examined the next stage of numerical analysis, while the second was designed around in-depth dialogue between senior experts and early-career researchers, giving greater weight to discussion than to lecture. The two Young Professionals Network events were held in sequence on 21 July. The afternoon dialogue was conducted as an open conversation rather than a lecture, the format being intended to allow discussion of

the practical trajectory of an international research career, the setting of research direction, and experiences of failure and transition that are seldom addressed in formal settings. Approximately 80 delegates attended the two events combined.



Special session

18. Parallel Sessions

Oral and special sessions ran in six parallel streams in the six meeting rooms on the second floor, across six time slots over three days. Poster sessions were held in the second-floor lobby during the morning and afternoon refreshment breaks.

Six parallel session blocks were held over the three main days. On Monday 20 July, following the Opening Ceremony and the first keynote session, Parallel Session 1 ran from 14:00 to 15:30 and Parallel Session 2 from 16:00 to 17:30, each in six streams, with Poster Session 1 held in the intervening break.

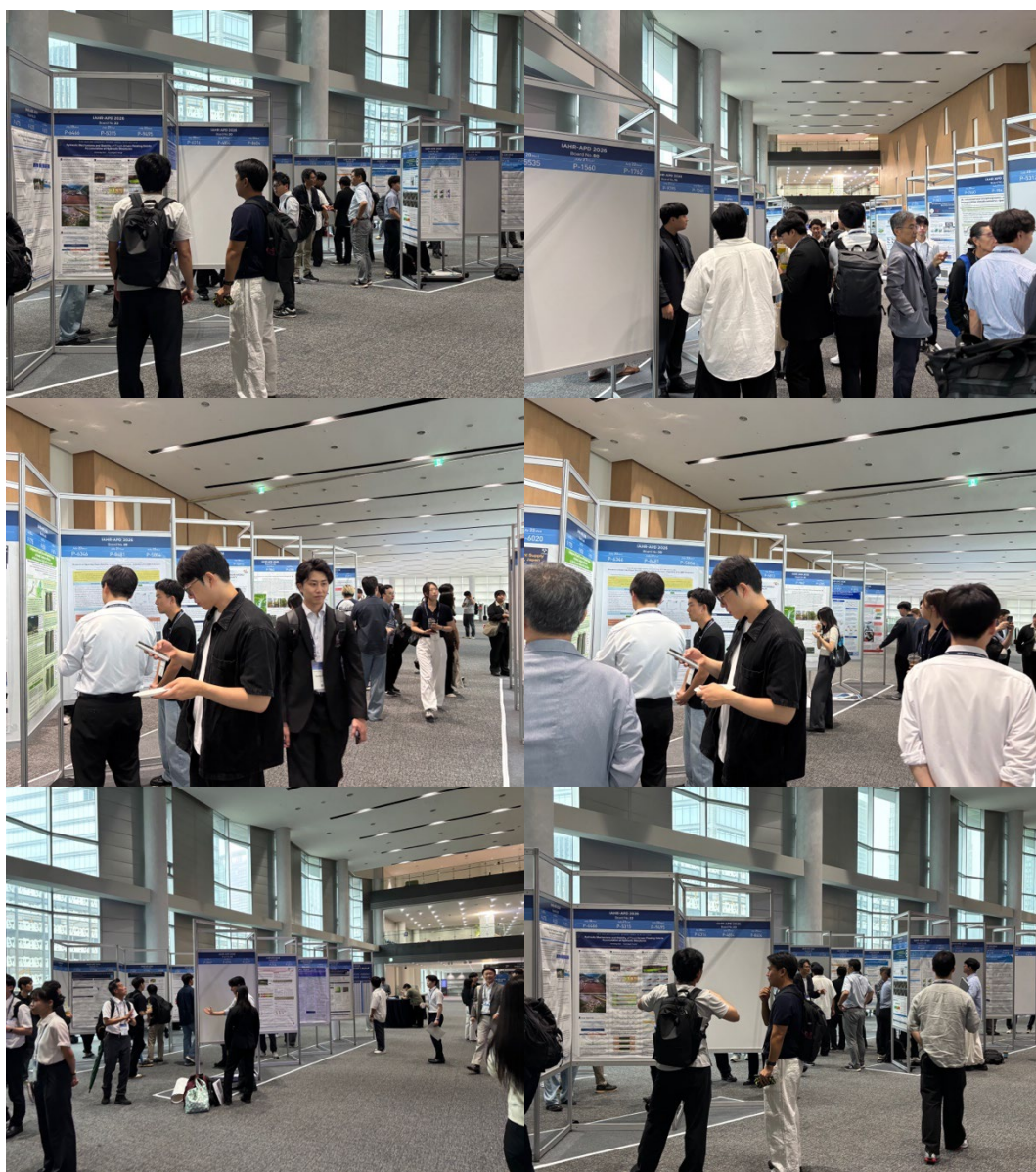
On Tuesday 21 July the morning opened with the second keynote session and the High-Level Panel, followed by Poster Session 2 during the break and Parallel Session 3 from 11:00 to 12:30 in six streams. The afternoon was given over to the technical field trip, and no parallel sessions were scheduled.

Wednesday 22 July carried the greatest share of the programme. The third keynote session was followed by Poster Session 3 and by Parallel Session 4 from 11:00 to 12:30; the afternoon held Parallel Session 5 from 13:30 to 15:00, a further poster interval, and Parallel Session 6 from 15:30 to 17:00, each again in six streams. The Congress closed at 17:00 with the Closing Ceremony and the presentation of awards.

The full programme grid is reproduced in Annex 1.



Oral presentation in a parallel session



Poster session in the second-floor lobby

19. Social Programme

Event	Date and Time	Venue	Details
Welcome Reception	20 July, 17:30–19:30	Grand Ballroom A	Canapés and cocktails for 300 persons. Master of ceremonies: Prof. Seung Ho Hong
Gala Dinner	21 July, 18:00–21:00	Grand Ballroom A	Western set menu for 200 persons; invited performance by the vocalist Ailee. Master of ceremonies: Prof. Donghwi Jung

Table 19-1. Social programme

Gala Dinner attendance comprised 46 domestic and 105 international participants, totalling 151. Admission was by coupon, and special dietary requirements, when notified in advance, were accommodated.



Gala Dinner, 21 July 2026

20. Closing Ceremony

The Closing Ceremony of the 25th IAHR-APD Congress was held on 22 July 2026 from 17:00 to 18:00 in Grand Ballroom A/B, with Prof. Jaehyun Shin of Gachon University presiding. The Congress presented the Distinguished Member Award and the Water Conservancy and Environmental Heritage Award of the IAHR-APD, together with the Best Paper Award of the Congress.



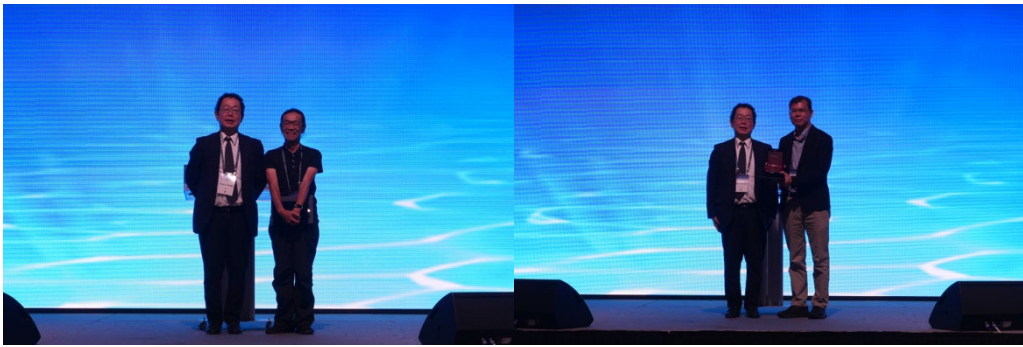
Closing Ceremony, 22 July 2026

20.1 Distinguished Membership Award

The Distinguished Membership Award of the Asia and Pacific Division was conferred on two recipients by Prof. Norio Tanaka, Chair of the IAHR-APD.

Recipient	Affiliation
Prof. Yasuyuki Shimizu	Hokkaido University, Japan
Prof. Adrian Law Wing Keung	National University of Singapore, Singapore

Table 20-1. Distinguished Membership Award recipients



Distinguished Membership Award

20.2 Heritage Award

The Soyanggang Dam received the IAHR Hydro-Environment Asia and Pacific Division Heritage Award. The award recognises water infrastructure whose value has been established internationally over an extended period, and the designation of a domestic facility carries particular significance for the Korean water resources community.

The award was received by Mr. Yu In-Seon, Director of the Soyanggang Dam Branch Office of K-water.



Heritage Award — Soyanggang Dam

20.3 Best Paper Award

Four papers — two domestic and two international — were selected by the Local Organizing Committee.

Author	Affiliation (Country)	Title
Bomi Kim	Kumoh National Institute of	High-Resolution Urban Flood Simulation for

Author	Affiliation (Country)	Title
	Technology (Republic of Korea)	Large Domains Enabled by Multi-GPU Computing
Akihiko Nakayama	Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (Malaysia)	Simulation of Shallow and Dispersed Overland Flow in Urban Catchment by a Particle Method
Sujin Kim	The Seoul Institute (Republic of Korea)	Scenario-Based Simulation of Delayed Sluice Gate Operation for CSO Control in a Restored Urban Stream: Cheonggyecheon Case Study
Yushuang Sun	Yangzhou University (China)	Effect of Particle Shielding on Cavitation Erosion Mitigation in Hyper-Concentrated Sediment Flows

Table 20-2. Best Paper Award recipients



Best Paper Award ceremony

20.4 Handover to the 26th Congress

With the conclusion of the 25th IAHR-APD Congress in Incheon, attention turned to the 26th Congress of the IAHR-APD, which will be held in Wellington, New Zealand, from 8 to 11 February 2028. Dr. Guinevere Nalder of New Zealand was invited to the platform to introduce the next Congress, and received the Congress flag on behalf of its Local Organizing Committee.



Handover ceremony — Wellington, New Zealand, 2028

ANNEXURE

A1. Congress Programme

The Congress ran over four days, from Sunday 19 to Wednesday 22 July 2026. Parallel sessions ran in six streams in the six meeting rooms on the second floor; the ceremonies, keynote sessions and High-Level Panel were held in Grand Ballroom A/B.

Time	19 July (Sun)	20 July (Mon)	21 July (Tue)	22 July (Wed)
08:30 –16:00	—	Registration (10:00–17:30)	Registration (08:30–12:00)	Registration
09:00 –10:30	IAHR Council Meeting Master Classes	—	Keynote II High-Level Panel	Keynote III
10:30 –11:00	↑	Opening Ceremony	Break & Poster Session 2	Break & Poster Session 3
11:00 –12:30	↑	Keynote I	Parallel Session 3 (6 streams)	Parallel Session 4 (6 streams)
12:30 –14:00	Registration (13:00–18:00)	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch (12:30–13:30)
14:00 –15:30	Master Classes	Parallel Session 1 (6 streams)	Field Trip (ticketed)	Parallel Session 5 (6 streams) (13:30–15:00)
15:30 –16:00	↑	Break & Poster Session 1	↑	Break & Poster Session 3 (15:00–15:30)
16:00 –17:30	↑	Parallel Session 2 (6 streams)	↑	Parallel Session 6 (6 streams)

Time	19 July (Sun)	20 July (Mon)	21 July (Tue)	22 July (Wed)
				(15:30–17:00)
17:30 –19:00	—	Welcome Reception	—	Closing Ceremony & Awards (17:00–18:00)
18:00 –20:00	—	—	Gala Dinner (ticketed)	—

Table A1-1. Congress programme. An upward arrow indicates that the entry above continues through the slot. The exhibition in Hall 1 was open on 20 and 21 July.

A2. Sponsors

Twenty-eight organisations sponsored the 25th IAHR-APD Congress. The Local Organizing Committee records its gratitude to each of them.

Sector	Organisation	Korean Name
Public institutions and associations	Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power	한국수력원자력
	K-water	한국수자원공사
	Korea Environment Corporation	한국환경공단
Construction	Hyundai Engineering & Construction	현대건설
	HL D&I Halla	HL디앤아이한라
	DL E&C	DL이앤씨
	Kumho E&C	금호건설
	Kolon Global	코오롱글로벌
	Dongbu Corporation	동부건설(주)

Sector	Organisation	Korean Name
Consulting	POSCO E&C	(주)포스코ENC
	Saman Corporation	(주)삼안
	ISAN Corporation	(주)이산
	Dohwa Engineering	(주)도화엔지니어링
	Korea Engineering Consultants Corp.	(주)한국종합기술
Small and medium-sized enterprises	Taejo	태조
	GTE	지티이
	Hycerg	(주)하이씨그
	HEC Korea	(주)핵코리아
	JCN	제이씨엔(주)
	Hermesys	헤르메시스
	Youngjin Construction	영진종합건설
	Kirim	(주)기림
	ENS	ENS
	Magpiesoft	매그파이소프트
	Nature & Plan	네이처엔플랜
	Wise Plus	와이즈플러스
	Eco & Geo	에코엔지오
	River & C	리버앤씨

Table A2-1. Sponsoring organizations, by sector

A3. Secretariat

Item	Details
Office	IAHR-APD 2026 Congress Secretariat
Address	3F, Jeong E&C Building, 31-5 Seocho-daero 58-gil, Seocho-gu, Seoul 06632, Republic of Korea
Email	info@iahr-apd2026.com
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Prepared by the Secretariat of the IAHR-APD 2026 Local Organizing Committee.