

27th WAITRO General Assembly

15 NOVEMBER 2024

27TH WAITRO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. WAITRO Report 2023/2024
2. WAITRO Operations e.V.
3. Work Plan 2025/26

Report 2023/2024

27TH WAITRO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

188

Members*

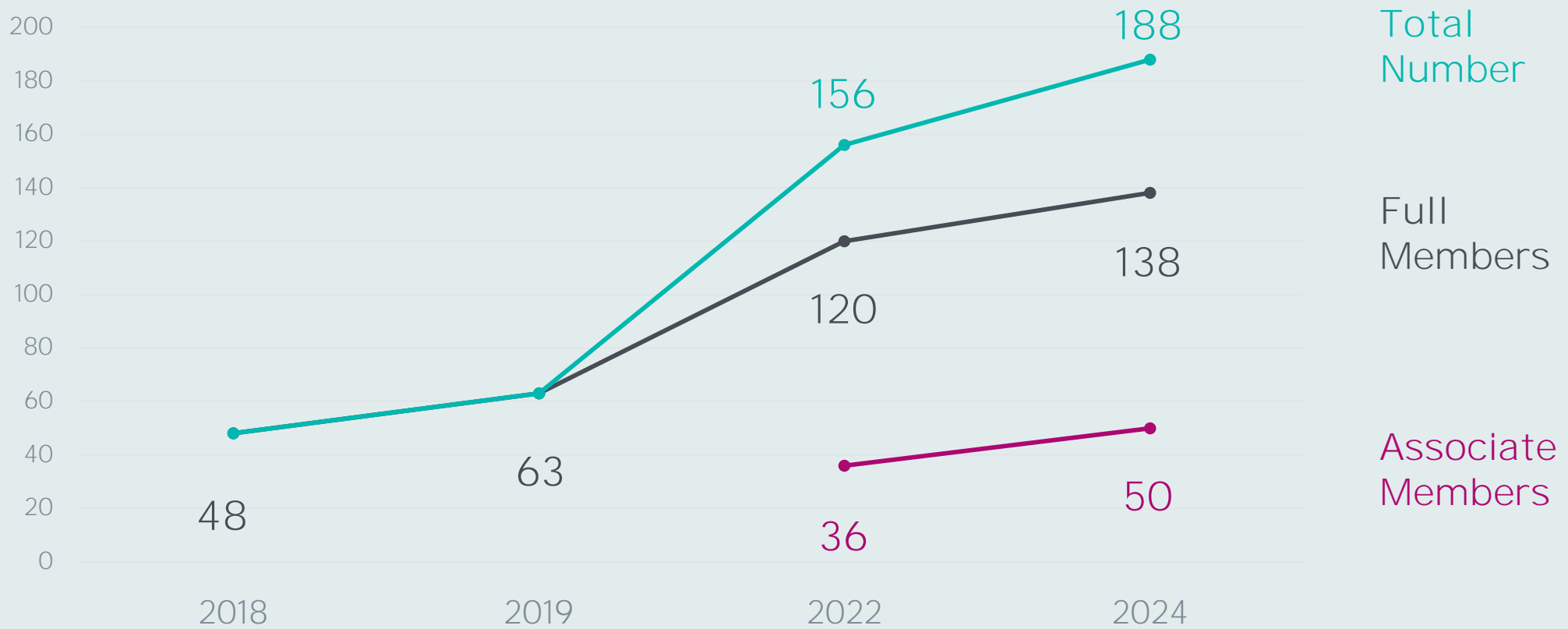
KEY MILESTONES & ACHIEVEMENTS

- Growth in membership and collaborations across regions
- Establishment of WAITRO Operations e.V. to secure funding and enhance member services
- Development of WAITRO Working Groups in SDG 2, 6, 7.
- Development of Entrepreneurship and Investor Readiness workshops

*as of November 14, 2024

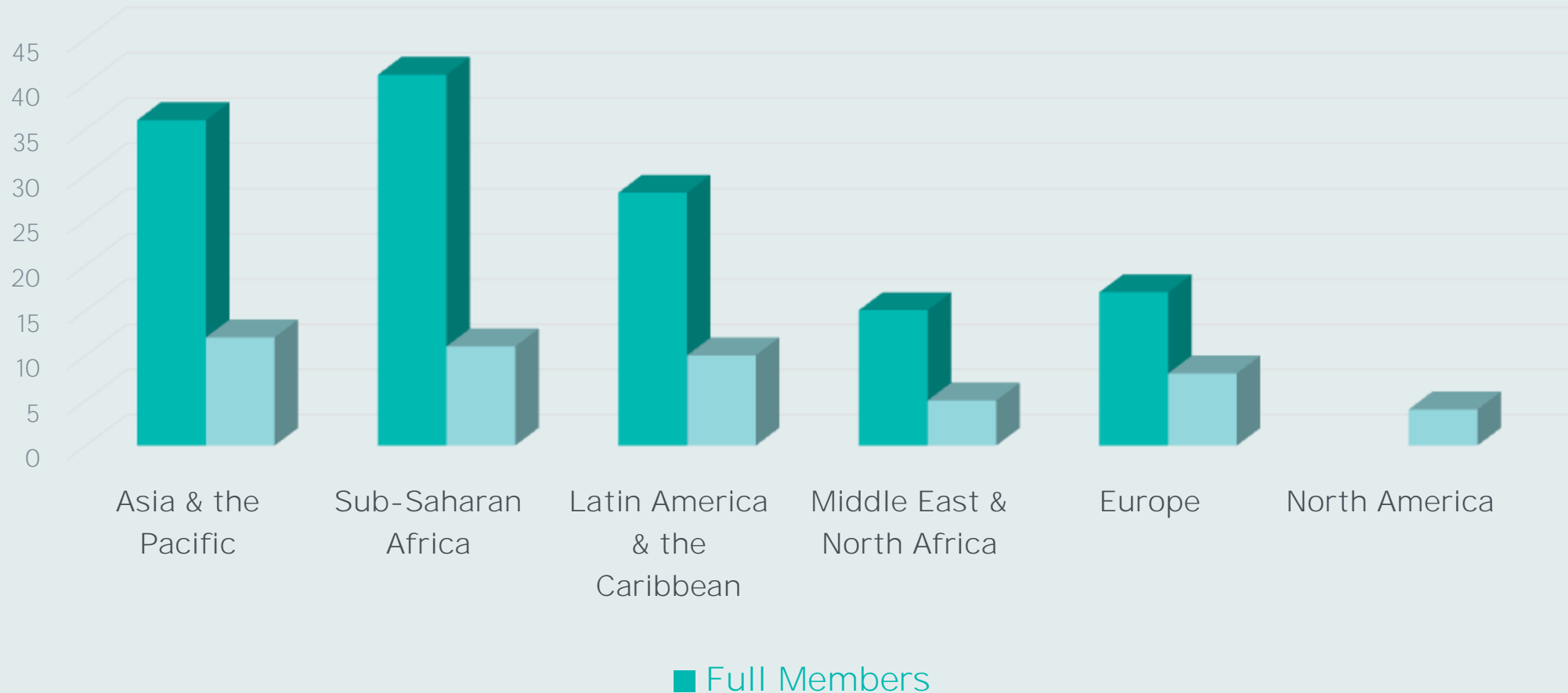
WAITRO Membership

WAITRO MEMBERS



WAITRO Membership

WAITRO MEMBERS BY REGION



New Members in 2023

9 FULL & 7 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

- Sierra Leone
- Italy

New Members in 2024

20 FULL & 12 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

- Azerbaijan
- Saudi Arabia
- Canada
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Benin
- Uzbekistan
- Paraguay
- Norway
- South Korea
- Hungary
- United Arab Emirates

WAITRO Executive Board (2023-2024)

PRESIDENTS AND VICE-PRESIDENTS

- Hasan Mandal, Istanbul Technical University (Türkiye)
President of WAITRO
- Hans-Erich Schulz, CARIRI (Trinidad and Tobago)
First Vice-President
- Dirk Saseta Krieg, Leitat (Spain)
Second Vice-Presidents



WAITRO Executive Board (2023-2024)

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

- Paul Pinnock Bosu, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research - CSIR (Ghana) Regional Representative for Africa
- David Tveit, Danish Technological Institute (Denmark) Regional Representative for Europe
- María Eugenia Suárez, National Institute of Industrial Technology (Argentina), Regional Representative for Latin American and the Caribbean
- Abeer Arafat, Royal Scientific Society (Jordan) Regional Representative for Middle East and North Africa
- Theresa Ningsi Astuti, National Research and Innovation Agency BRIN (Indonesia) Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific



WAITRO Secretariat

HOSTED BY JITRI



Dr Paul Burrows
Secretary General
WAITRO Secretariat



Ran Duan
Director
WAITRO Office China



Yucheng Hang
Program Support
WAITRO Office China



Lei Hou (Holly)
Communication
WAITRO Office China



Chuqiao Dong
WAITRO Benchmarking Project
WAITRO Office China



Yiwen Jiang
Program Support
WAITRO Office China

SUPPORTED BY



Dr Eckart Biendümpel
Chief of Staff
WAITRO Secretariat



Dominik Reinertz
Director
WAITRO Office Germany

Budget

PROVIDED BY JIANGSU PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Total amount

- US\$ 489.429 in 2023 / US\$ 804.532 in 2024 (projected)

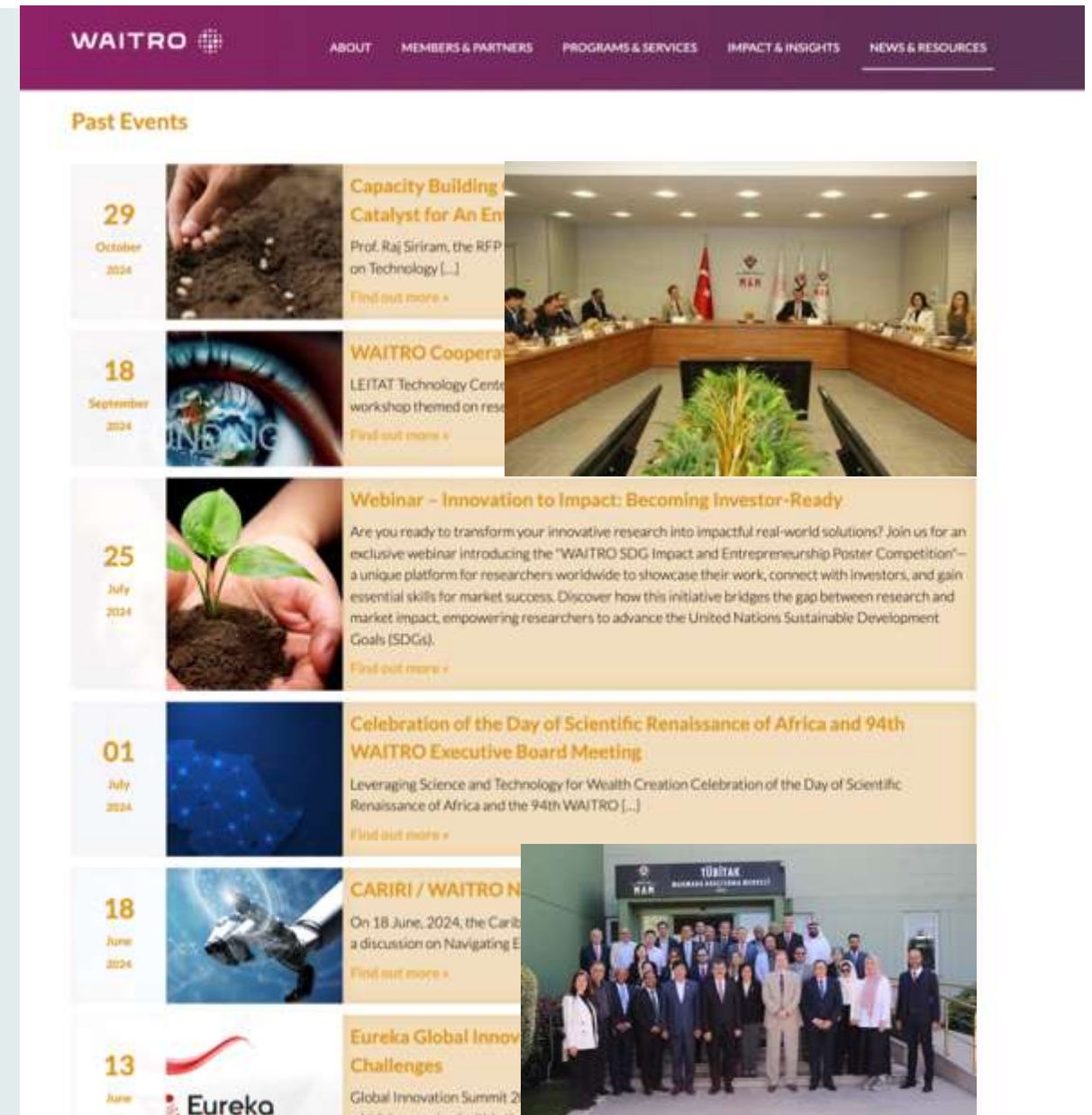
Major budget allocation

- WAITRO Secretariat (salaries and travel)
- WAITRO workshops (e.g. event series on entrepreneurship)
- Events (e.g.)
 - Global Industrial Technology Innovation Cooperation Conference (GITICC)
 - WAITRO Summit 2024
- Seed funding for WAITRO Operations e.V.

WAITRO BUDGET: US\$ 0
(NO INCOME)

Selected Workshops

- Horizon Europe Tools & Tips Workshop (June 2023)
- Impact of Indigenous and local products on the SDGs (August 2023)
- WAITRO MENA Regional Forum and Water Workshop (September 25th - 26th 2023)
- Event Series: Empowering Innovation: Entrepreneurship in Research Organizations (November 2023)
- Webinar: Intellectual Property of Technology (April 2024)
- Webinar – Innovation to Impact: Becoming Investor-Ready (July 2024)



The screenshot shows the 'Past Events' section of the WAITRO website. The navigation bar includes links for ABOUT, MEMBERS & PARTNERS, PROGRAMS & SERVICES, IMPACT & INSIGHTS, and NEWS & RESOURCES. The main content area lists several events with dates, titles, and brief descriptions:

- 29 October 2024:** Capacity Building Catalyst for An En... Prof. Raj Siriram, the RFP on Technology [...]
- 18 September 2024:** WAITRO Coopera... LEITAT Technology Cent... workshop themed on res...
- 25 July 2024:** Webinar – Innovation to Impact: Becoming Investor-Ready. Are you ready to transform your innovative research into impactful real-world solutions? Join us for an exclusive webinar introducing the 'WAITRO SDG Impact and Entrepreneurship Poster Competition'—a unique platform for researchers worldwide to showcase their work, connect with investors, and gain essential skills for market success.
- 01 July 2024:** Celebration of the Day of Scientific Renaissance of Africa and 94th WAITRO Executive Board Meeting. Leveraging Science and Technology for Wealth Creation Celebration of the Day of Scientific Renaissance of Africa and the 94th WAITRO [...]
- 18 June 2024:** CARIRI / WAITRO N... On 18 June, 2024, the Carib... a discussion on Navigating E...
- 13 June 2024:** Eureka Global Innov... Challenges. Global Innovation Summit 2...

Accompanying images include a hand sowing seeds, a globe, hands holding a seedling, a meeting room, a satellite, and a group photo of people in front of a building.

Selected Projects

- WAITRO Website transferred from Fraunhofer to an independent host in Germany.
- Membership database managed by WAITRO Secretariat Office at JITRI
- Benchmarking Project (2023-2024) in collaboration with DTI
- Exhibition Space at JITRI
- SAIRA matchmaking platform (until July 2024)

The screenshot displays the 'All Activities' section of the WAITRO website. It features a grid of project cards, each with a title, location, date, and a 'LEARN MORE' link. The cards include:

- The Power of the WAITRO Network Brought to Life: A Partnership Transforming Kenyan Communities by Turning Waste into Wonder** (Kenya, 2019-now)
- FORTH Spinout Enhances Air Quality Inside and Out** (Crete, Greece, 2019-now)
- Development and Strengthening of CARIRI's Idea Advisory Service (IAS) and Innovation Gap Analysis Programme (IGAP)** (Trinidad and Tobago, 2018-2019)
- ROBot Sensing for tele-Ecography (ROSE)** (C Coimbra - Portugal)

Representation in International Forums

- G-STIC Rio: Session on SDG 17 Partnerships, Brazil (February 2023)
- 9th India International Science Festival, India (January 2024)
- GITIC, China (January 2024)
- Eureka Global Innovation Summit (GIS), Istanbul (June 2024)
- InaRI Expo, Indonesia (Aug 2024)
- G-STIC India: Panel discussion on the role of digital technology in sustainability (and closing address), New Delhi (October 2024)

Date: 28 February 2023 By: WAITRO

WAITRO Session at G-STIC Rio Highlights the Importance of Global Partnerships for the SDGs

Experts Discuss Key Obstacles and Opportunities in Implementing SDG 17 and the Role of Public-Private Partnerships

On February 14th, 2023, the 6th G-STIC Conference in Rio de Janeiro hosted a WAITRO Session on SDG 17: Global Partnerships for Sustainable Development Goals. The main objective of the session was to introduce WAITRO as a tool to foster international partnerships and implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The session began with a WAITRO presentation by Paul Burrows from JI TRI/WAITRO. This was followed by two keynote speeches by Manuel Heitor from the University of Lisbon and Carlos Henrique de Brito Cruz from Elsevier, who discussed the importance of knowledge, innovation, and private sector involvement in achieving the SDGs.



Round table discussion on SDG 17: Obstacles and Opportunities

The session continued with an interactive round table discussion, featuring Sergio Ibáñez from Leitat, Paul Burrows, Jaime Arboleda Palacios from CTA and Alessandro Pansanato Rizzato from SENAI. The panelists discussed the main obstacles in implementing SDG 17, the key trends in research collaboration for sustainable development, inspirational examples of international cooperation in the context of the SDGs, key recommendations to advance the 2030 Agenda through research partnerships, and the role of public-private partnerships in achieving the SDGs and how WAITRO can promote it.

The round table highlighted the importance of international cooperation and networking initiatives in

Recent News

- › The 1st WAITRO Fellowship Awardees Visited JI TRI
- › WAITRO Secretary-General Highlights Global Innovation and Sustainability at the 7th G-STIC in India
- › Latin America and the Caribbean WAITRO Regional Newsletter's 13th Issue Out Now
- › Leitat hosted WAITRO Cooperation for Development Online Workshop
- › CSIR for Connect, Collaborate, Converge and Convert (5C) for Global Sustainable Development during Science Summit at 79th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA79)

Filter

- Action
- Africa
- Articles
- Asia & the Pacific
- Australia & China
- Breakout Session
- IRTRI
- Capacity Development
- CTA
- Development
- Edut's Corner
- Europe
- Events
- Fellowship
- Funding opportunities
- Global partnerships
- Governance
- Guest Article

News

WAITRO / The Global Industrial Technology Innovation Conference highlighted leadership, diversity, and integration

Date: 24 January 2024 | By Lin Hui

The Global Industrial Technology Innovation Conference highlighted leadership, diversity, and integration

January 18-19, 2024, Nanjing, P.R. China, the Global Industrial Technology Innovation Cooperation Conference (GITICC) was jointly hosted by Jiangsu Industrial Technology Research Institute (JITRI), National Innovation Center for Excellence (NICE), and the World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organizations (WAITRO).

The theme of the 1st GITICC is set as 'Integrating Innovation and Industry: Partnerships for a Sustainable Future', aiming to foster global discussions and collaborations on innovation, and transferring science and technology into industry.



The GITICC attracted 400 distinguished guests representing 40 international partners in over 20 countries and regions, representing key universities, investment institutions, multinational corporations, and business and industry leaders.

On January 18th, the opening ceremony and main forum brought together international and Chinese experts from government departments, universities, research institutions, financial industries, and the business community. WAITRO Secretary General Dr. Paul E. Burrows delivered a welcome speech to all guests and over 5,000 online attendees, inviting them to jointly work with the Global Innovation Family, nurturing science and technology partnerships through supportive platforms and mechanisms such as those of JITRI and WAITRO. Dr. Burrows also invited the attendees to the 23rd biennial WAITRO Summit in Nanjing, which will be held in November 2024.

The Conference was honored to have keynote speeches from the former WAITRO president, HRH Princess Sumaya bin El Hassan, President of the Royal Scientific Society of Jordan (RSS-Jordan), and the current WAITRO President, Prof. Dr. Hasan Mandal, President of Scientific and Technological Research

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- Fellowship

Global Industrial Technology Innovation Cooperation Conference (GITICC)

JANUARY 18-19, 2024

- Hosted by JITRI, National Innovation Center for Excellence (NICE), and WAITRO
- Theme of the 1st GITICC; 'Integrating Innovation and Industry: Partnerships for a Sustainable Future'
- 400 participants and 5000 online attendees
- Intended to become an annual WAITRO event

Communication

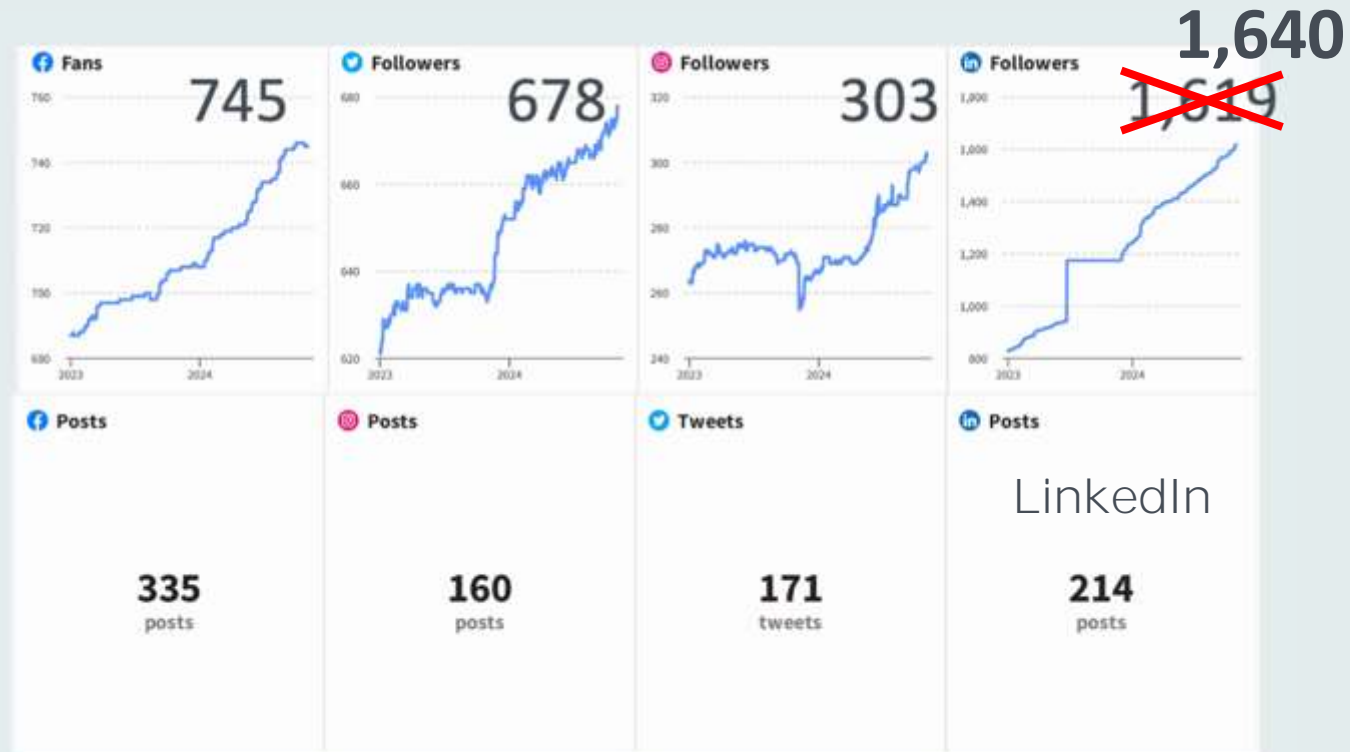
CONTRACTED TO HOU (HOLLY) LEI IN BEIJING

- From January 1, 2023 through November 1, 2024, 19 member newsletters were issued and read by 12,269 recipients
- 880 social media posts were created for 4 purposes:
 - Promoting WAITRO events (29 events)
 - Promoting member events (Started from Jan 2024, 11 events, 2 call for proposal, and 1 job advertisement)
 - Promoting member expertise with #UNdays series (27 UN international days)
 - Promoting member expertise with bi-weekly member news (Started from Jan 2024, 20 issues on FB)

Communication

How many individuals in your organization know what WAITRO is?

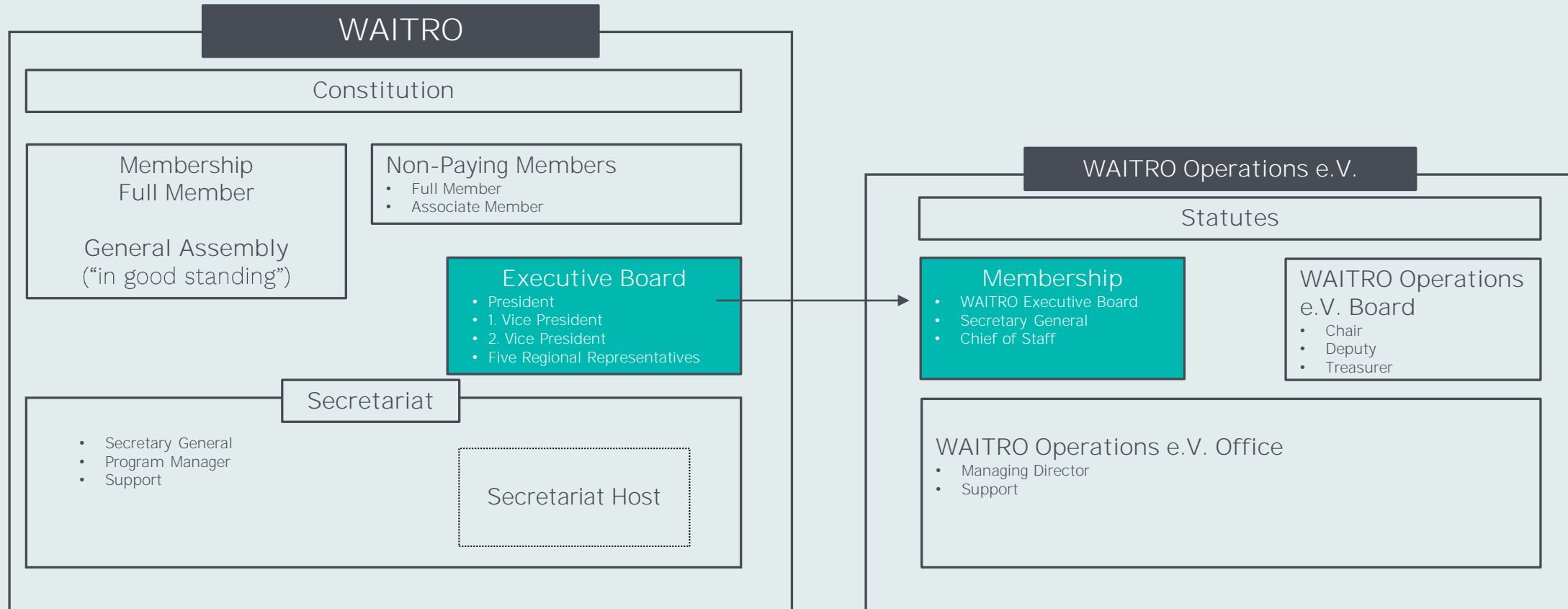
ENGAGEMENT IS STILL THE BOTTLENECK!



WAITRO Operations e.V.

27TH WAITRO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

WAITRO Operations e.V.



WAITRO Operations e.V.

- Founding Meeting (December 2023)
- Entry into the German Register of Associations (May 2024)
- Recognized as a non-profit organization (June 2024)
- Opening of a WAITRO business account (September 2024)
- Signing of a service agreement with JITRI to secure seed funding (September 2024)
- Start of business operations (October 2024)



WAITRO Office in Bonn

- Only officially recognized UN entities are permitted to use UN campus facilities
- The German Foreign Office has not granted formal UN-affiliated status to WAITRO
- WAITRO Operations e.V. will explore further options to open an Office in Bonn nearby the UN Campus.



Changes

WAITRO OPERATIONS E.V.

- WAITRO gets a legal status (again)
- WAITRO has a its own bank account
- WAITRO can manage its funds
- WAITRO has staff 100% focused on WAITRO (scalable)
- SAIRA can be operated and further developed under a “neutral” banner

Opportunities

WAITRO OPERATIONS E.V.

- WAITRO can apply for projects, sponsorship, etc.
- WAITRO can participate in projects (lead projects, lead work packages, take over responsibilities)
- WAITRO’s services and programs can be scaled

Plans & Next steps

- Organization of WAITRO workshops
- Diversification of funding sources
- Further development of SAIRA
- Participation in projects
- Establishing a WAITRO office in Bonn
- Building partnerships
- Organization of the WAITRO Summit 2026 in Bonn (tbc)

A STRATEGY WILL BE
DEVELOPED WITHIN
THE NEXT WEEKS.

Invitation

For a 1:1 call to discuss your ideas on how you (and your organization) can contribute/benefit the most from WAITRO Operations e.V.

JOINT STRATEGY

D.REINERTZ@WAITRO.ORG

WAITRO Work Program 2025/2026

27TH WAITRO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

6 Goals to reinforce
WAITRO's
Strategic Plan
“WAITRO 2030”



Strengthen Membership Engagement

GOAL 1

- Organize targeted member outreach programs and in-person visits coordinated with the Regional Focal Points (RFPs).
- Improve the quality and frequency of newsletters and social media updates. Update the newsletter mailing list.
- Require RFPs to hold quarterly virtual meetings.
- Increase individual participation on social media sites
- Establish a new protocol for membership, requiring a joint meeting with the Secretariat to identify needs and opportunities before being accepted, rather than it being optional after acceptance as is the current protocol.



Increase Financial Sustainability

GOAL 2

- Develop a strategy to apply for external grants from funding agencies using the value proposition of WAITRO as a resource and WAITRO Operations e.V. as a legal entity.
- Develop a value proposition for all membership tiers, including Associate Members, with benefits to attract a broader range of members and generate sustainable revenue for WAITRO Operations e.V.
- Explore alternative funding mechanisms, such as strategic partnerships and sponsorships.



Increase WAITRO's Visibility and Impact

GOAL 3

- Update WAITRO website to improve accessibility, engagement, and search engine optimization (SEO).
- Enhance WAITRO's social media presence with targeted campaigns to highlight success stories, projects, and collaborations (aligns with Goal 1)..
- Increase media outreach and participation in global forums, particularly UN events, to raise awareness of WAITRO, its mission, services, and impact.
- Promote WAITRO Fellowship schemes and participants.
- Use RFP knowledge and influence to improve connections and partnerships with regional organizations..



Strengthen Global Research and Innovation Collaboration

GOAL 4

- Facilitate international research consortia among WAITRO members.
- Organize matchmaking events coupled with coaching for best results.
- Support joint research proposals for multilateral funding, especially from international bodies.
- Re-introduce SAIRA 2.0 on an independent platform.
- Develop and test prototype of SAIRA 3.0



Enhance Capacity Development Programs

GOAL 5

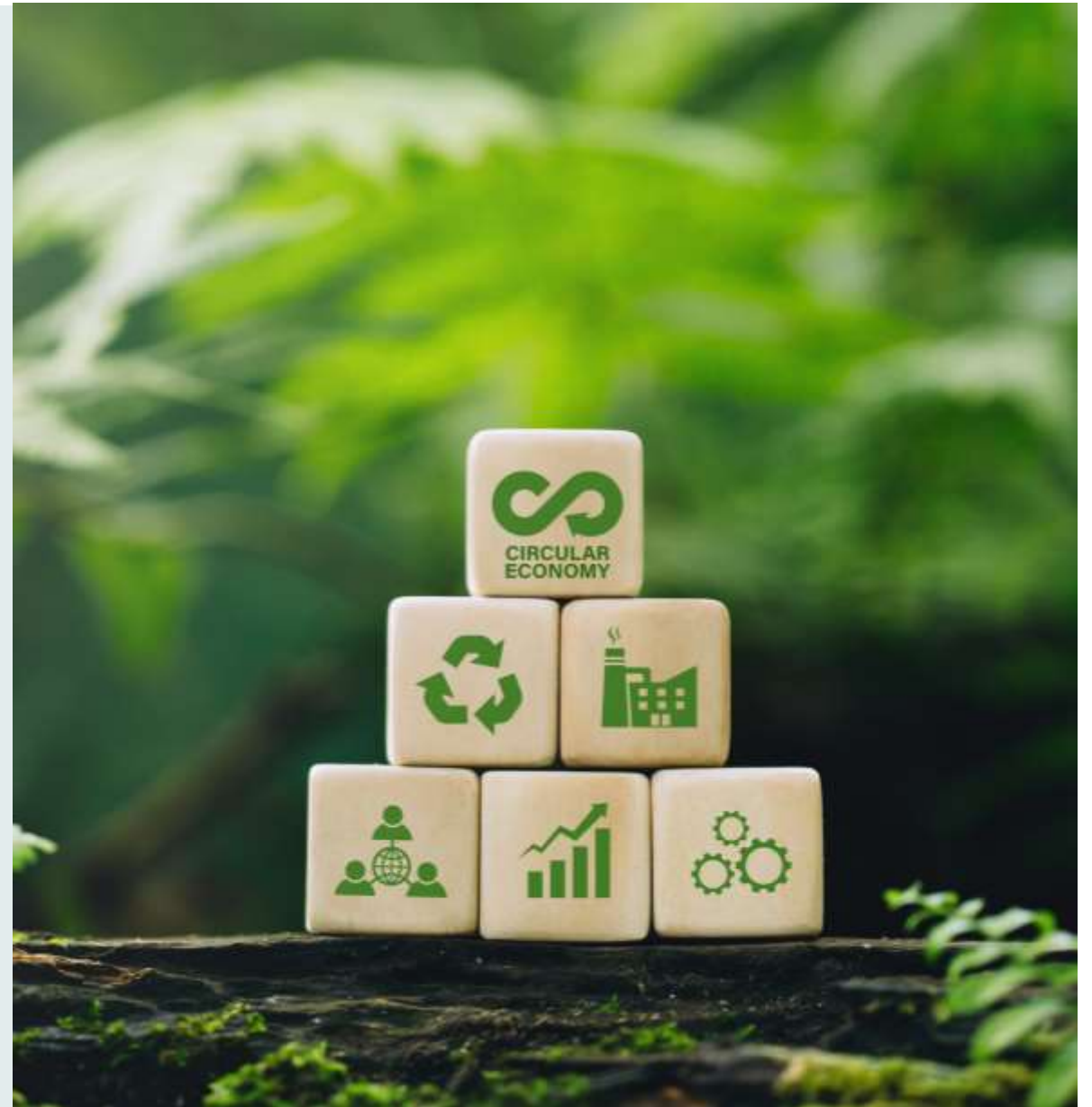
- Develop the theme of “innovation to impact” introduced at the WAITRO Summit 2024.
- Further develop the WAITRO Benchmarking Initiative, testing concepts such as mentoring programs between well-established RTOs and members in developing countries.
- Apply for external grants that support capacity development.
- Build partnerships with external agencies for joint capacity development (e.g. Gates Foundation, etc.).



Advocacy

GOAL 6

- Support the work of WAITRO SDG Working Groups and encourage them to generate advocacy platforms for the Secretariat to promote (e.g. how national and regional governments can legislate to support RTOs).
- Advocate for policies and frameworks that support research and innovation globally, with a focus on sustainable development.
- Collaborate with international organizations and governments to represent the interests of WAITRO members in shaping research and innovation policy.
- Publish position papers and reports on key policy issues to influence global discourse .



WAITRO Operational Plan

HUMAN RESOURCES

Anticipated Staffing*

- Secretary General (50% time)
- Office Director (full-time)
- Program Manager (part-time)
- Communication and Marketing Specialists (part-time)

*JITRI will consider scaling its staffing in response to workload demands and the evolving needs of WAITRO's global membership and goals.

THE WAITRO
SECRETARIAT HOSTED BY
JITRI WILL ASSESS
STAFFING REQUIREMENTS
TO ENSURE SUFFICIENT
SUPPORT FOR 2025-2026

WAITRO Operational Plan

FINANCIAL RESOURCES & BUDGET ALLOCATION

WAITRO aims to diversify its revenue streams

- Key strategies include:
 - Ending the waiver of membership fees
 - Applying for external grants and sponsorships to fund WAITRO activities
- The precise allocation of funds raised through these fees will be decided by the Board and Members of WAITRO Operations e.V. (identical to the composition of the WAITRO Executive Board, ensuring transparency and alignment with strategic goals)

FOR THE YEARS 2025 AND 2026, ALL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS AT THE WAITRO SECRETARIAT WILL CONTINUE TO BE COVERED BY JITRI.

WAITRO OPERATIONS E.V. WILL BE FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED BY JITRI DURING THIS PERIOD VIA A SERVICE CONTRACT WITH DEFINED DELIVERABLES TO SUPPORT THE SECRETARIAT.

WAITRO Membership

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

- September 2022 - WAITRO Executive Board prepares and decided on a proposal for new membership fee structure (lowering membership fees in all categories)
- November 2022 – 26th General Assembly 2022 accepts proposal from Executive Board and gives Board power to end the fee waiver
- July 2024 – WAITRO Executive Board decided to reinstall membership fees as authorized by the General Assembly (94th WAITRO Executive Board Meeting)
- August 2024 - WAITRO Secretariat informed WAITRO membership about decision by the Executive Board
- November 2024 – 27th General Assembly
- December 2024 – WAITRO (Operations e.V.) will send out “request for payment”

WAITRO Membership

MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING AND SUSTAINING MEMBERS

GNI per Capita	Fees
GNI below \$2k	\$250/year
GNI from \$2k to \$10k	\$500/year
GNI from \$10k to \$30k	\$1000/year
GNI over \$30k	\$2000/year

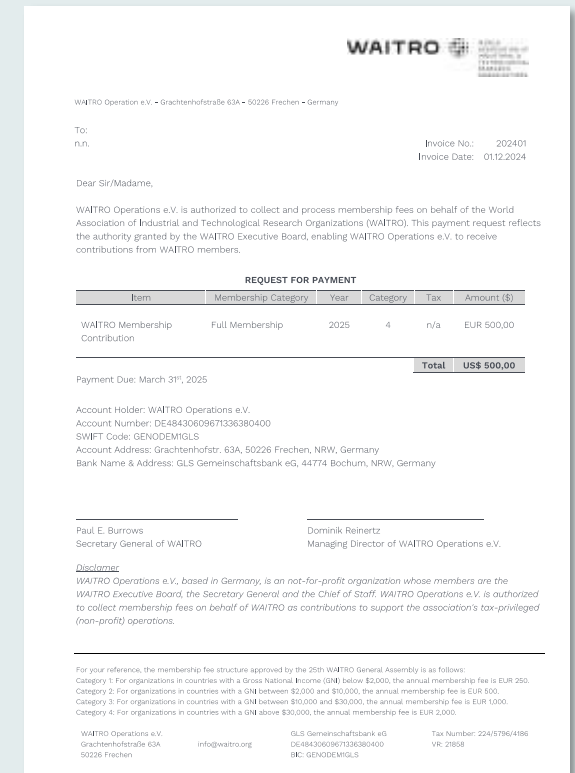
NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING AND SUSTAINING MEMBERS EXCEPT FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

Additionally, members willing to voluntarily contribute at least twice the prescribed membership fee in the above schedule will be considered Sustaining Members of WAITRO. Sustaining Members will be featured on the www.waitro.org landing page and will receive special recognition at WAITRO events.

WAITRO Membership

PROCEDURE

- By late November 2024: all members will receive a formal letter with information on their respective membership category and asking whether they wish to make voluntary contributions to become a Sustaining Member. Please reply within 14 days.
- By mid December 2024: all members will receive an invoice from WAITRO Operations e.V. according to their choice. Payment is due by March 31, 2025 in order to remain a Member in Good Standing in accordance with Clause 2 of the Bylaws.
- If you have any challenges paying in time, please contact:
 - Secretary General of WAITRO (Paul)
 - General Manager of WAITRO Operations e.V. (Dominik)



Regional Focal Points (RFPs)

ANNOUNCEMENT

- Regional Focal Points (RFPs) are extensions of the Secretariat into the regions through individual member RTOs. Although RTOs are organizations, strong individual leadership is almost always a predictor of success.
- Appointments are for two years with the approval of the Executive Board and can be renewed subject to satisfactory performance.
- RFPs sign a service agreement – type contract with the Secretariat host in return for seed funding. This seed funding is designed to attract larger funding from regional sources.
- All RFP contracts end December 31st 2024 and will be re-competed during December 2024 for the next 2-year period. A notification will be sent to all CPs after the Summit.

Call to Action

TOGETHER, WE CAN STRENGTHEN THE GLOBAL INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM AND DRIVE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

All members are encouraged to engage actively in WAITRO's initiatives, whether

- by participating in joint research projects
- attending capacity development sessions
- contributing to advocacy and publicity efforts
- Following WAITRO's social media channels and engaging with posts