



# WAITRO REGIONAL NEWSLETTER

## Asia and the Pacific

Created by TISTR as a WAITRO Regional Focal Point (RFP) for Asia and the Pacific



WAITRO EXECUTIVE BOARD – RFP MEETING  
20-21 NOVEMBER 2023  
TÜBİTAK MARMARA RESEARCH CENTER, GEBZE, TÜRKİYE

## WAITRO FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

This year, WAITRO has launched several Fellowship Programs to foster an innovation ecosystem and support member organizations by facilitating research exchanges. The programs include:

1. **WAITRO-BRIN Fellowship Program on SDG2 Zero Hunger – Call for Proposal**
2. **TÜBİTAK-WAITRO Postgraduate and Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme**
3. **WAITRO Fellowship (Travel Subsidy)**
4. **JITRI Fellowship (with Chinese industrial partners)**

Members who have a fellowship program may join in WAITRO Fellowship Pool. For more information on each fellowship, please visit the WAITRO website.



## WAITRO SUMMIT 2024

This year, **Jiangsu Industrial Technology Research Institute (JITRI)**, will host the WAITRO Summit & General Assembly 2024 as a biennial flagship event for WAITRO members on **Nov 13-15, 2024**, at its campus in Nanjing, P.R. China. The summit is open for WAITRO members and non-members to participate in.

The summit focus is **“From Innovation to Impact”** with several tracks inspired by the Executive Board & RFP members e.g.

- The Convergence of Digital & Green Transformations
- Enabling Local Solutions, Achieving Global Impact
- Incubators, Accelerators, and Entrepreneurship
- WAITRO Working Groups

Any members that have an idea and wish to host a technical workshop, please contact the WAITRO Secretariat team as soon as possible.

In addition, the General Assembly (GA) will be hosted back-to-back to the Summit. It is a significant meeting for all members to see the contribution and performance of the Executive Board Members throughout the past 2 years including to learn future direction and provide feedback. Importantly, it's time for the members in good standing to vote for Executive Board Members for 2025-2026.

Read more and pre-registration [here](#).



# WAITRO - ASIA & THE PACIFIC IN CONTRIBUTION TO SDG 2 WORKING GROUP

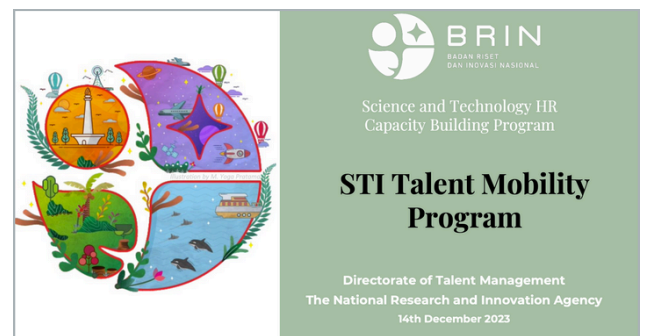
**National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) – Indonesia** has led a new initiative establishing a WAITRO SDG 2 : Zero Hunger Working Group since 2022 at WAITRO Summit in Cape Town. It was formed to provide a platform for collaboration and to amplify WAITRO’s contribution towards the specific SDG.

On 14 December 2023, the WAITRO SDG2 Working Group Webinar “Harvesting Global Solutions: Uniting for Zero Hunger Research Collaboration and Funding Opportunities” was held by BRIN to follow up and further develop the WAITRO SDG2 Working Group. There was a sharing of knowledge, experience, and lessons learned among the experts and stakeholders from different regions. In addition, BRIN has introduced funding schemes of research funding and research mobility programs to allow researchers and member organizations to conduct research related to SDG2 in Indonesia.



in early 2024, BRIN has launched the STI Talent Mobility Program providing opportunities and funding for the research focusing on SDG 2 at BRIN.

In the first batch, BRIN has received 16 proposals consisting of 5 from WAITRO Members and 11 from non-members. The proposals are still in the selection process.



## FUNDING INFO DAY



On 28 February 2024, Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research (TISTR) as the Asia and the Pacific Regional Focal Point (RFP) for WAITRO organized the **FUNDING INFO DAY** special for people of WAITRO member organizations.

There were representatives of international funding schemes, namely Southeast Asia (SEA) – Europe Joint Funding Scheme for Research and Innovation, and e-Asia Joint Research Program. Additionally, there was a presentation of WAITRO’s Innovation Ecosystem, and 4 project ideas from researchers at selected WAITRO member organizations who are seeking partners and collaboration.

[Read More](#)

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## SEVEN WONDERS : Spotlight the Member



Dr. Lan Thanh Ha  
Head of Department, Training and  
International Cooperation

**INSTITUTE OF WATER RESOURCES  
PLANNING (IWRP), VIETNAM**  
WAITRO Member Organization



Can you share an overview of your organization?

Sure! **The Institute of Water Resource Planning (IWRP)**, founded in 1961, is a key player in water resources, environment, and disaster prevention in Vietnam and the Indochina peninsula. We work closely with the Vietnamese government and local authorities to develop and manage water resources. Our team uses advanced modeling software to predict water flow and manage water quality, climate change, and disaster risks. We also collaborate with national and international organizations to enhance our research and impact.

What inspired your organization to join the WAITRO membership?

We, IWRP, joined WAITRO to tap into a global network of industrial and technological research organizations focused on water resources. WAITRO offers fantastic opportunities for networking, knowledge sharing, and collaboration, which help us enhance our research and tackle global water challenges more effectively. It's a great platform to exchange ideas and best practices with experts worldwide.

Has being a WAITRO member influenced IWRP and people in their professional development journey?

Being part of WAITRO has been a game-changer for us. It has opened doors to incredible networking, collaboration, and learning opportunities. Our staff has connected with global experts, learned about the latest trends and technologies, and expanded their professional networks. These experiences have enriched our team's skills and knowledge, making us better equipped to handle our projects.

Please share the activity or project that IWRP jointly involved with WAITRO that impressed you the most?

One standout moment was when we presented a poster showcasing our work at the WAITRO Summit 2022. The event sparked meaningful conversations with industry leaders and researchers, leading to new partnerships and innovative solutions. It highlighted the power of collaboration and the significant impact of our partnership with WAITRO.



Any other memorable experience you would like to share?

The WAITRO Summit 2022 in Cape Town was unforgettable. It focused on fostering global partnerships to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The event was packed with keynotes, roundtables, panels, and workshops, providing fantastic opportunities for networking, learning, and collaboration. It was truly inspiring!

Do you think IWRP can collaborate with WAITRO or its members to contribute to the SDGs in the future?

Absolutely! By collaborating with WAITRO, we can address various SDGs, like clean water and sanitation, sustainable cities, and climate action. Through joint research, capacity-building initiatives, and innovative solutions, we aim to tackle global challenges and promote sustainable development worldwide.



Lastly, would you like to encourage other organizations to join our WAITRO global family?

Join us to shake up the future of innovation! Together, we can drive collaboration, create impact, and shape a sustainable world.



On behalf of WAITRO, thank you, Dr. Lan Thanh Ha, for sharing your insights and experiences with us, especially your valuable experiences with WAITRO. Your work at IWRP is truly inspiring!

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