



May 2019

UNESCO Land Subsidence International Initiative (LaSII)

Procedure for application for new Observers/Associates of the UNESCO Land Subsidence International Initiative (LaSII) from 2019

OBSERVERS

Candidates for *LaSII Observer* have experience in research or work related to the exploitation of groundwater and the associated land subsidence phenomena.

A *LaSII Member* suggests a new *Observer* by sending the candidate's CV and statement-of-interest to the Technical Secretary, with copies to the LaSII Chair and Vice-Chair. The Technical Secretary distributes the information to all *Members and Observers* and collects comments.

Becoming an *Observer* is subject to member voting during the LaSII Annual Meeting in absence of the applicant. If 50% of the Member votes are in favor of the applicant becoming an *Observer*, the applicant is acknowledged, the Chairman will send a letter to communicate admission into the LaSII and commitments to the LaSII. She/he also will be invited to the next Annual Meeting.

If the applicant receives less than 50% of the Member votes in favor of the applicant becoming an *Observer*, is not able to become an *Observer*. LaSII may decide to propose her/him to collaborate in the LaSII activities as an *Associate*. The Chairman will send a letter to communicate rejection into the LaSII as *Observer*, and the invitation to be an *Associate* (if applicable).

The reasons for no acceptance as *Observer*, and the eventual invitation to be an *Associate*, will be explained and sent to the applicant in a letter undersigned by the LaSII Chair.

Observers must contribute to the work of the *LaSII* and are expected to attend the annual meeting. They have to consider that there is no funding available from LaSII or UNESCO to contribute to the work of the LaSII or to attend LaSII meetings.

Observers are encouraged to comment on LaSII topics, but may not vote on the LaSII decisions.

After showing a strong commitment for one or more years with the LaSII activities as an *Observer*, LaSII members may vote to promote an *Observer* to Member when her/his country has less than two representatives.

ASSOCIATES

When a country already is represented by two specialists or because the candidate receives less than 50% of the member votes to become an observer, the candidate may be invited to collaborate as a *LaSII Associate*.

Associates are informed about the LaSII activities and are invited to participate in them. An Associate may be invited to participate in a LaSII Annual Meeting or another LaSII activity.

A *LaSII Member* suggests a new *Associate* by sending the candidate's CV and statement-of-interest to the Technical Secretary, with copies to the LaSII Chair and Vice-Chair.

The Technical Secretary distributes the information to all *Members* and *Observers* and collects comments.

Becoming an *Associate* is subject to member voting during the LaSII Annual Meeting in absence of the applicant. If 50% of the member votes are in favor of the applicant becoming an associate, he/she will be informed by the Technical Secretary.

If the applicant receives less than 50% of the member votes in favor of the applicant becoming an Associate, the Chairman will send a letter to communicate rejection into the LaSII as Associate.

Associates are expected to follow and participate in LaSII activities. Attendance to the annual LaSII meeting is not mandatory but can be requested. There is no funding available from LaSII or UNESCO to participate in LaSII activities or to attend LaSII meetings. The permanence of associates will be evaluated every five years based on their contribution to LaSII activities.

LaSII Officers (2018-2020):

Chair: Dora Carreon Freyre freyre@geociencias.unam.mx

Vice-Chair: Pietro Teatini pietro.teatini@unipd.it

Technical Secretary: John Lambert john.lambert@deltares.nl