



ISMAR12



**12th International Symposium
on Managed Aquifer Recharge**

**STELLENBOSCH
SOUTH AFRICA
28 APRIL-2 MAY 2025**



12th International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge (ISMAR12)

28 April – 02 May 2025 | Stellenbosch, South Africa

Post-Symposium Report: ISMAR12 | Protea Hotel | Stellenbosch

Symposium Name: The 12th International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge
Date of Symposium: 28 April – 02 May 2025
Location: Protea Hotel and Conference Centre - Stellenbosch
Event Organizer: Conference et Al

Executive Summary

The International Symposium on Managed Aquifer Recharge (ISMAR) is the premier international event on MAR research and practice, held every 3 years under the auspices of the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH), the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

ISMAR 12 was held in Stellenbosch, South Africa from 28 April to 2 May 2025. This was an opportunity for the rest of the world's MAR experts and academics to come to South Africa, showcase their specialities, and form the African connections that can provide their companies and institutions with their next international MAR partnership to facilitate new projects and studies, this time in Africa.

Key Highlights

Attendance: This year's symposium was attended by over 173 delegates and 11 exhibitor staff from over 30 countries

Keynote Speakers: Renowned experts, including Adam Hutchinson, Ricky Murray and Peter Dillon delivered impactful plenary presentations that highlighted advancements in their respective fields.

Networking Opportunities: The layout of the exhibits, particularly in the lunch area, allowed ample networking time for delegates. Most symposium activities were conveniently held on one floor.

Sponsorship and Exhibits: The sponsorship and exhibits contributed to the financial success of the event.

Positive Feedback: Both delegates and exhibitors provided overwhelmingly positive feedback on the organization and content of the Symposium.

Symposium Programme

ISMAR12 received over 160 abstracts reflecting the high level of interest in the event.

Potential delegates were encouraged to submit their abstracts for oral or poster presentations via the Symposium website. All submitted abstracts were reviewed by Dr Nicolette Vermaak for consideration and inclusion in the final programme, which was compiled by the scientific committee.

The LOC received 7 workshop proposals which could not all be included as pre workshops. Four were selected as pre workshops held on Monday, 28 April 2025 and 4 were included as part of the programme.

Plenary Speakers:

Adam Hutchinson: Managed Aquifer Recharge: Restoring Our Connection to Water and to Ourselves.

Russell Martin: An overview of MAR in Southern Africa – lessons learnt.

Peter Dillon: Testing the robustness of MAR policy settings for Water Supply Security under Climate Change.

These distinguished speakers contributed valuable expertise and perspectives to the Symposium, enhancing the overall experience for delegates.

Conclusion

ISMAR 12 received overwhelmingly positive feedback from both delegates and exhibitors. The event began with a vibrant and enthusiastic atmosphere that was successfully sustained throughout the week.

The Symposium programme, special sessions – panel discussions, workshops and social programme went exceptionally well. Hosting the event at a hotel just outside Stellenbosch proved ideal, encouraging delegates to mingle and network without the distractions should it have taken place in a city setting. The hotel's proximity to local attractions still allowed delegates to enjoy sightseeing at the end of each day's programme.

The number of delegates exceeded even our most optimistic expectations. We had to adopt a conservative approach to our estimates and budgeting during the initial planning stages to ensure the budget remained balanced and avoid any deficits. While a larger venue could have accommodated more delegates, taking on that financial risk was not feasible.

Importantly, the symposium's impact extended beyond the formal sessions. Following ISMAR 12, delegates continued their discussions on social media, underscoring what is essential in an event like ISMAR 12 — it's not just the formal programme or discussions during the symposium, but the ongoing dialogue, networking, and exchange of information that helps to drive collaboration and exchange of information.

We trust that the organizers of future ISMAR symposiums will benefit from this report and assist them to organize a successful ISMAR symposium. For Conferences et al it was both a challenging and enjoyable event to organize and we thank the LOC for their support in organizing a successful ISMAR12 Symposium.

Conferences Et Al.

CONFERENCES MEETINGS FUNCTIONS EXHIBITIONS

Report by Conferences et al

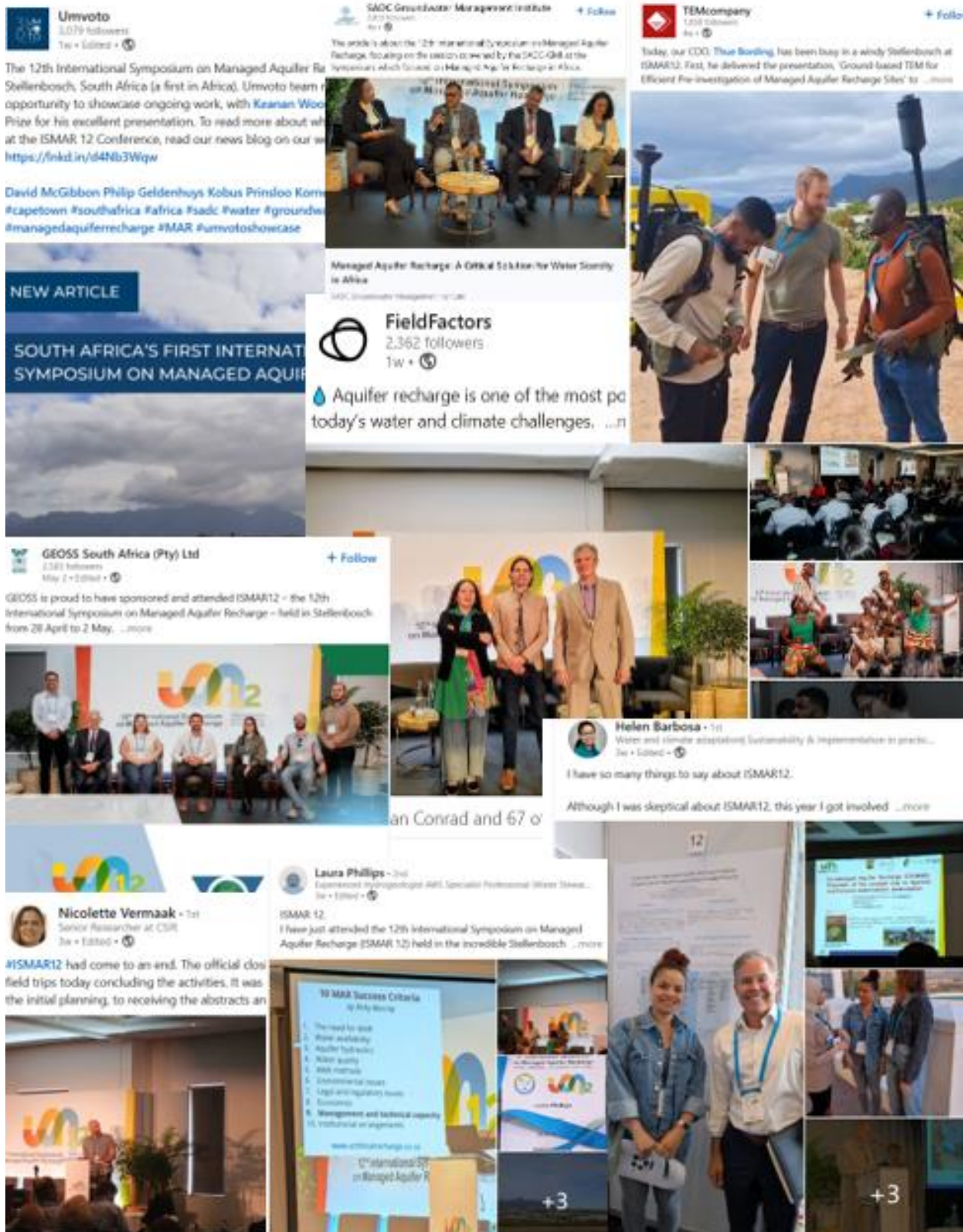
Email: deidre@iafrica.com

Website: www.conferencesetal.co.za



12th International Symposium
on Managed Aquifer Recharge

STELLENBOSCH
SOUTH AFRICA
28 APRIL - 2 MAY 2025



A Selection of Social Media Posts on LinkedIn

