



2024 Annual Report

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[Click here to view the full 2024 UIAA Annual Report](https://www.uiiaa-annual-report.org/2024) ↗

This is an abridged version of the 2024 UIAA Annual Report. The UIAA Annual Report is now entirely digital and can be viewed from the following link:

<https://www.uiiaa-annual-report.org/2024>

Please refer to page 10 of this document for more information.

President's Report



My first four years as President of the UIAA:

Challenging, Progressive, Educational, Fun.

Peter Muir, Alpine Club of Canada (ACC), became the 14th UIAA President when elected during an online General Assembly in 2020. He was re-elected for his second and final term during the 2024 GA in Malta. In his Annual Report, Muir reflects on the progress that the UIAA has made under the first era of his tenure and where the focus lies on the road to 2028.

My motivation for re-election:

I have really enjoyed being President for four years. I am delighted to continue for another four. There's still work to be done. I came to conclusion that the current Articles of Association have served the UIAA well but certain revisions were needed to reflect the UIAA of 2024 and beyond. We've improved communication between the Management Board and the Commissions about what each expected. Across the next four years, I would like to further develop all levels of communication and ensure that greater standardisation is in place. The latter is core to us being more agile in delivering on our promises and projects.

Where I'd like the UIAA to be in 2028:

The Articles of Association should reflect the reality of where the UIAA is now and clearly define levels of responsibility. I would like to expand the resources that are available because one of the limitations of the agreed Strategic Priorities 2025-2028 is that they are aspirational. We already do some things very well but we need to ensure that we have the resources to fulfil our potential. This income needs to come from partnerships and sponsorship or through revenue from some of our activities. We can also help ourselves by reducing the tendency to 'reinvent the wheel' which is a drain on volunteer time.

The UIAA at 100

Wider global representation is one of the seven goals of the new Strategic Priorities. The UIAA marks its centenary in 2032 and the ambition is for us to have well over 100 members and greater representation in some continents, especially in Africa. We need to have a much higher profile. As an anecdote, I'd like to see every climber in my country - Canada - know what the UIAA is, as opposed to - for some people - just being a curious little tag on a carabiner. What does the UIAA really does stand for? What's available from it? It's a big task and it is essential.

Words from **Peter Muir**, President of the UIAA

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Peter Muir".

Part 1: Executive Review - President's Report

What are the benefits for UIAA members?

To a certain extent, I think that we need to continue to remind members about the benefits available. A coming example will be climate change as we invite members to join us in our growing initiatives to demonstrate leadership in recognition and adaption by providing excellent opportunities for members to develop their own sustainability plans which they may not be able to manage themselves because of capacity. Then there's the many tangible benefits with our services and research in safety, mountain medicine and training. The UIAA is the global mountain network. It's most visual manifestation is the General Assembly itself. It is there that if members face an issue or a problem, the chances are they will meet some other national federation who has faced the same problem. Problems are rarely unique and can be solved through collaboration. Bringing like-minded climbing organisations together is one of the main roles of the UIAA.

The Executive Committee

One thing I'm particularly pleased with is the collegiality, within the Executive Committee and the Management Board. I'd like to spend a few words on two departing members – Françoise Jaquet and Lode Beckers. Françoise has done a remarkable job as treasurer and in committing her time and expertise to projects like developing standard operating procedures, which were badly needed for the organisation as a whole. Lode, likewise, is a very smart person. He's dedicated to what he does and has strong, sound opinions. He is someone who has challenged us all to think in different ways.

I am delighted that Martin Lascano and Amit Chowdhury were re-elected in Malta for their second terms. They have produced incredible work in their respective fields of responsibility. Together with Simon Alden, who in 2024 expertly led the hosting of our General Assembly in Malta, Yongfeng Wang and our two newly elected members, Saray Khumalo and Yolanda de Both, we have an incredibly diverse EC.

Safety Centre of Excellence

Our Medical and Safety commissions have benefitted from extraordinary leadership and impressive dedication from their members. This has made the structure bigger than individuals. In other words, everybody understands what their role is and what the objective of the Commission is.



These Commissions are scrupulous in what they undertake. They pick tasks which bring added value and are achievable. And they bring real expertise and excellence to the project. The recent work on bolting and on advice for women in climbing has been impressive.

In turn, they have greatly increased the profile of the UIAA, and they have also greatly increased the safety of people, or their access to knowledge and risk management resources. So the proposed Safety Centre of Excellence needs to be a crystallisation of this – access to knowledge. People, especially when starting out, do not always know the questions to ask. If, for example, you're a woman who wants to go to Nepal, trekking or climbing, what is it you need to know? Well, the UIAA can provide access to that guidance.

As training is a core and popular service, it is also a component of these strategic priorities, with a focus on refining its structures and standardisation for even greater impact and appeal.

Sustainability and Climate Action Plans

The UIAA has recently published its Sustainability Charter, the long-awaited update to the 2002 Environmental and Sustainability Guidelines. That together with our climate action plans are not only foundational documents for the UIAA and its members but also living documents. Members can start on their climate journey at whatever point they are at. Not many have the resources of the major eight to ten federations. We represent a large number of smaller members with fewer resources. Our role is to assist them throughout their journey to becoming more sustainable and in being able to prepare for the impacts of climate change.

A case in point is the experiences of clubs like the Alpine Club of Canada, German Alpine Club and the Swiss Alpine Club in rebuilding huts or making them more sustainable operations.

From a UIAA position we need to lead from the front. You can't tell people what to do if you're not doing it yourself. I just find that intolerable position. So our internal Climate Action Plans are equally important and we need to be transparent on our progress.

Significant changes to competition ice climbing

My hope is that the new structure 'World Ice Climbing' is going to enable the people who are experts in this field to work with a greater degree of independence. Personally I don't think that the previous 'Commission-type of structure' works for ice climbing. This is a specialised project. If you look at other major organisations they have very specific structures in place to develop their sports and by people who are fully focussed on that. They are experts. I don't see a sport like ice climbing growing without that same kind of structure. Only then will you enable the sport to develop.

Female representation and participation

The UIAA signed the Brighton Plus Helsinki Declaration in early September. This is a commitment from the UIAA to further promote the participation of women in all aspects of climbing and mountaineering – including in our own governance. One thing we need to ensure is that women are encouraged to follow pathways to key positions both in member federations and at the UIAA and that the nominating procedures dictate this. When the time comes my time as UIAA President ends, I would be thrilled if there are number of strong female candidates and a female President. Representation is important not only in terms of gender but also in ensuring we truly represent different cultures and parts of the world. We've taken positive steps towards this on an Executive Committee level.

Engaging with new partners and brands

The UIAA is an attractive proposition to potential brands and partners. We welcome all kinds of opportunities – from supporting specific events to the federation as a whole. The UIAA as the global mountain network can provide great visibility and credibility to a brands. Our work takes us to some of the world's most extreme and fragile environments.

Celebrating climbing and mountaineering achievements and awards

Increasing our visibility on a global scale and being even more relevant is important. Our new podcast series Mountain Voices has enabled us to engage on different topics and with influential personalities in the climbing and mountaineering world. One project under discussion is the potential for a UIAA Awards platform which may provide the opportunity to recognise certain people and achievements. However, we need to make sure that this brings added value and that it is not a drain on existing resources.

We also need to focus on the return in 2025 of the Mountain Protection Award, which for us is a major project which recognises people and organisations who are changing the mountain world for the better.

Change of CEO at the UIAA

In September 2024, André von Rotz was appointed as new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the UIAA. He will assume the position on a full-time basis from 1 February 2025. André succeeds Nils Glatthard who held the position of UIAA CEO since July 2017. Nils will continue in his role throughout a period of transition until early 2025.

We are excited to welcome André as our new CEO. In a field of excellent candidates, the selection committee strongly agreed that he met all the criteria required for the position. We are confident that he will be a strong asset to the Management Board and UIAA members in their work to bring the UIAA to its full potential. That said, he has a tough act to follow coming after Nils. There's little question that Nils leaves a significant and lasting legacy that provides a solid foundation for the UIAA in the years to come.

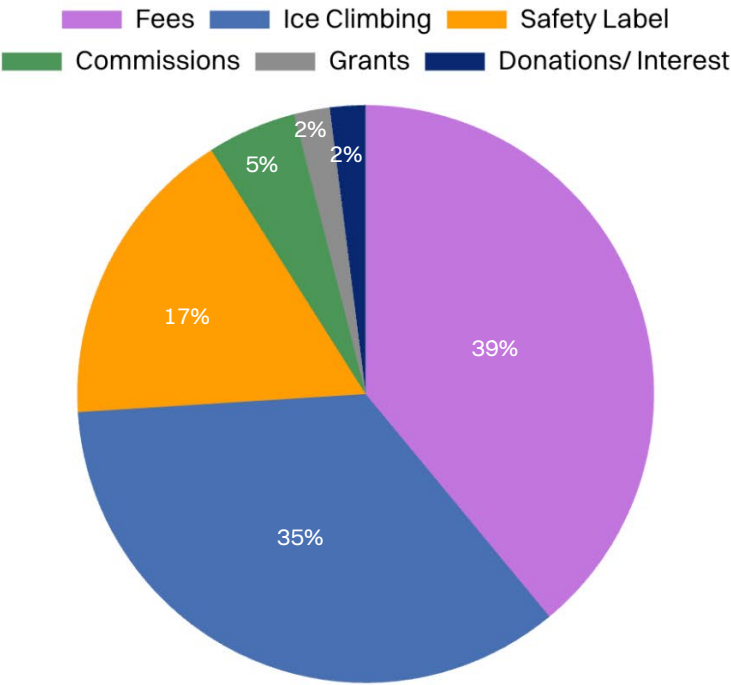


UIAA published its Sustainability Charter in 2024

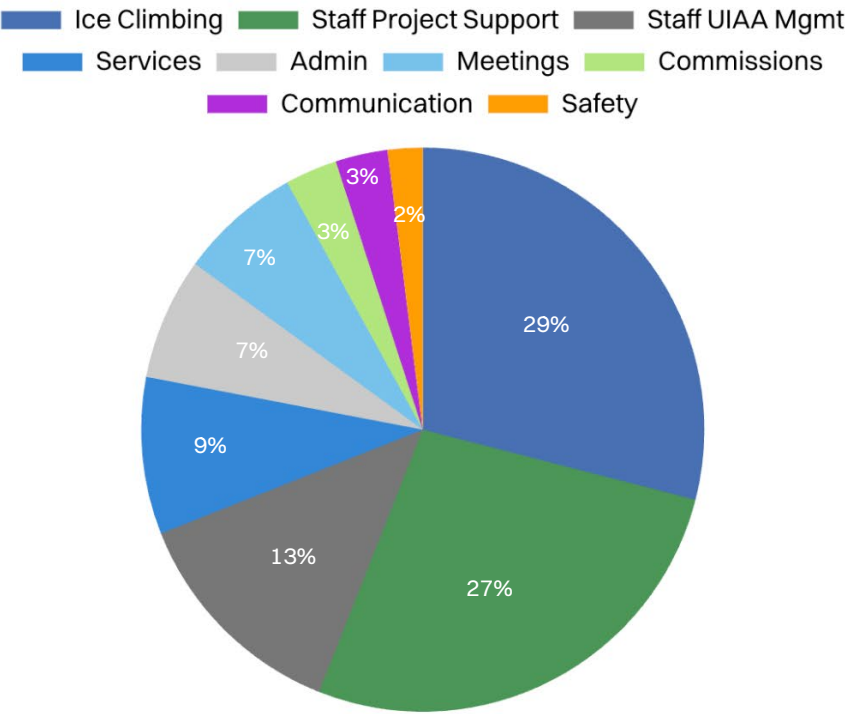
Financial Report

Income/ Expenses 24

Income 2024



Expenses 2024



Profit and Loss Statement 2023, Budget and Results 2024, Budget 2025

CHF	Results 2023	Budget 2024	Results 2024	Notes	Budget 2025
INCOME					
Fees	319'000	325'000	340'200	1, 2	330'000
Grants	20'000	20'000	20'000		10'000
Commissions	460'200	502'000	499'700	3 - 6	630'200
Donations, others	2'700	10'000	4'000	7, 8	10'000
Total Income	801'900	857'000	863'900		980'200
EXPENSES					
Staff for Federation Management	108'000	135'000	118'500	9	125'000
Staff Projects and Commissions	196'500	255'000	237'000	9	199'000
Services	57'400	48'500	76'200	9	76'500
Administration, Office	30'900	31'700	64'700	10	63'300
Meetings - GA, MC, EB, Office	62'900	56'000	62'700	11	52'000
Projects and Commissions	334'900	379'500	305'900	12, 13	472'200
Communication	21'200	27'000	23'100	14	23'000
Total Expenses	811'800	932'700	888'100		1'011'000
Result of the Year	-9'900	-75'700	-24'200	15	-30'800
Allocation to General Provision	-	-	-		-
Net Result	-9'900	-75'700	-24'200		-30'800

The full Finance Report is available in the digital version of the 2024 UIAA Annual Report.

Notes

INCOME		EXPENSES	
1	Member fees CHF 325'000 budgeted, CH 335'000 invoiced, received CHF 340'000; includes CHF 8'855 extraordinary income (outstanding membership fees from previous years); outstanding fees 2024 significantly lower than in previous years; invoicing and reminders digitalized through database	9	Staff and services: CHF 7'000 total lower than budget due to reduced employment%; CHF 23'000 moved fro services (external solution for accounting); no non-budgeted external recruitment costs for new CEO (EC and were used for recruitment)
2	Safety Label fees: CHF 130'000 budgeted, CHF 150'000 received, CHF 20'000 higher than budgeted due to business development activities by new UIAA mountain safety project manager targeted at increasing number of manufacturers and certified products, very few outstanding fees	10	Admin, Office: +CHF 27'000 for higher insurance premium; +CHF 4'300 for ARIS membership fee (ARIS C introduce membership fees came after budget approval by the UIAA GA)
3	Youth: as budgeted; IOC grant was received, no significant income from Youth Camps	11	Meetings GA, MB, EC, CP, Office: CHF 6'600 higher than budgeted due to improved meeting tech support d travel expenses for EC and Commission meeting expenses
4	Ice Climbing, Anti-Doping: CHF 22'500 lower than budget due to fewer events; IOC grant, Organizer service and calendar fees, sponsorship cash and in-kind were all received; note: Youngone contract expiring in 2025	12	Projects and Commissions: expenses were significantly lower than budgeted, despite intense project work and discussions in several Commissions; no MPA due to lack of sponsor until October, and ongoing review of UIAA awards
5	Mountain protection: old MPA sponsorship got cancelled early 2024, CHF 23'800 new sponsorship income from Lenovo invoiced for 2024, based on a 2-year contract for 2024 and 2025	13	Medical Commission within budget despite CHF 7'000 non-budgeted support to FASA for IMSTC in Bariloche; CHF 5'000 provision for print-project from 2021 was dissolved
6	Training: income from skills training, certification and increased income from publications (Alpine Handbook)	14	Communication: CHF 4'000 lower than budget despite additional expenses for non-budgeted podcast series "Mountain Voices"
7	Donations: no income from donations	15	Result of the year: loss CHF 24'200; a loss of CHF 75'700 was budgeted and approved by GA 2023
8	CHF 4'000 non-budgeted income from money market and fixed term placements (interest)		

Balance Sheet

ASSETS - CHF	31 DECEMBER 2024	31 DECEMBER 2023
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	530'132	592'973
Receivables	39'658	13
Prepayments and accrued income	57'506	52'542
Inventory	5'000	5'000
TOTAL ASSETS	632'296	650'528
LIABILITIES - CHF	31 DECEMBER 2024	31 DECEMBER 2023
Third party liabilities		
Accounts payable	25'615	14'192
Other short term liabilities	4'447	0
Accrued expenses and deferred income	185'727	190'137
Total current liabilities	215'789	204'329
Equity accounts		
Capital of the association as per 1 January	305'136	345'136
General provision	118'328	119'087
Designated equity accounts: Solidarity, Access and Conservation	27'088	31'847
Increase of reserves and provision	-9'871	-40'000
Result of the year	-24'174	-9'871
Total equity	416'507	446'199
TOTAL LIABILITIES	632'296	650'528

Notes

Information on the annual accounts principles applied

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with the provisions of Swiss law, in particular the articles on commercial bookkeeping and accounting of the Swiss Code of Obligations (Art. 957 – 962).

	31 DECEMBER 2024	31 DECEMBER 2023
Average number of full-time positions		
Up to 10 full-time positions	appropriate	appropriate
Extraordinary income		
Membership fees received from previous years	CHF 8'855	-
Dissolution of hidden reserves		
Membership fees received from previous years	CHF 8'855	-
Exchange rate of foreign currencies		
EUR	0.95	1.03
USD	0.91	0.90

Part 4: Membership, Finance and People - Management Board

Management Board

Continental Representatives

Paul Cartensen
Africa
South Africa
Mountain Club of South Africa

Young Hoon Oh
Asia
Korea
Korean Alpine Federation

Phil Powers
Europe
United States
American Alpine Club

Jean Miczka
Europe
France
Fédération Française de la Montagne et de l'Escalade

Willy Montenegro
South America
Chile
Fédération Chile de la Montagne et de l'Escalade

Stuart GRAY
Oceania
New Zealand
New Zealand Alpine Club

Representative Members

Joachim Driessen
Netherlands
Royal Dutch Climbing and Ice Climbing Club

Andrew Syme
United Kingdom
British Mountaineering Council

Eimir McSwiggan
Ireland
Mountaineering Ireland

Nima Nuru Sherpa
Nepal
Nepal Mountaineering Association

Stein Tronstad
Norway
Norwegian Climbing Federation

Largest Federation Representatives

Davide Avagnina
Italy
Italian Alpine Club

Josef Klenner
Germany
German Alpine Club

Juan Jesús Ibañez Martín
Spain
Federación Española de Deportes de Montaña y Escalada

Unit Member Representation

Silvio Calvi
Italy
International Mountaineering Federation

Click here to view all biographies ↗

Part 4: Membership, Finance and People - Executive Committee

Executive Committee

UIAA Presidents

Peter Muir
President
Canada
Alpine Club of Canada

1955-1964 Count Charles Edmond d'Arcis
1965-1968 Edouard Vyes-Durant
1969-1972 Albert Eggler
1973-1976 Jean Juge
1977-1984 Pierre Bossus
1985-1989 Carlo Sgarzini
1990-1993 Pietro Segantini

1995-2004 Ian McNaughte-Davis
2005-2006 Alan Blackshaw
2007-2009 Pierre Humblet (acting)
2010-2011 Mike Mortimer
2012-2015 Jordi Colomer (acting)
2016-2019 Frits Vrijlandt
2020- Peter Muir

Martin Lascano
Vice President
Fédération Française de la Montagne et de l'Escalade

Amit Chowdhury
General Secretary
Indian Mountaineering Federation

Yolanda de Both
Treasurer
Netherlands Climbing and Mountaineering Association

Simon Alden
Chairman
ClimbMT

Saray Khumalo
Member
Mountain Club of South Africa

Yongfeng Wang
Member
Chinese Mountaineering Association

Click for full biographies of all EC members ↗

Part 3: Commission Report - Mountain Protection

As noted in one of the big achievements in Chapter 2 – the publication of the UIAA Sustainability Charter – the year 2024 proved to be very active for the UIAA Mountain Protection Commission.

Publication of Sustainability Charter
Climate Change Taskforce
International Year of Glaciers' Preservation
Future and relaunch of Mountain Protection Award
Climate Action Plans: Case Studies
Focus for 2025
Carbon Footprint Report for 2023

Part 1: Executive Review - General Assembly

2024 UIAA General Assembly

The 2024 UIAA General Assembly was held from 8-9 November in Malta and expertly hosted by UIAA member association, ClimbMT. Over 110 delegates from 50 countries attended the event. Among the guests were UIAA Honorary Member and former President Frits Vrijlandt, IFSC President Marco Sgaris and Julian Pace Bonello, President of the Maltese Olympic Committee.

Among the headlines from the GA:

The re-election of Peter Muir as UIAA President. The re-election for two Executive Committee members (Amit Chowdhury and Martin Lascano) as well as the election of two new members (Yolanda de Both and Saray Khumalo), the hosting of the 3rd Climate Change Summit, panel discussions (dedicated to rock climbing and hiking, the UIAA Strategy as well as Commission projects), the approval of the UIAA Strategic Priorities 2025-2028 and the creation of an Operating Unit ('World Ice Climbing') for competition ice climbing.

An overview of the key voting decisions
A review of the 3rd Climate Change Summit

Operating Unit for World Ice Climbing
UIAA Strategic Priorities 2025-2028

Part 1: Executive Review - Strategic Priorities

For the years 2025-2028 the UIAA has set seven priorities for development:

Wider global representation
Rock climbing and hiking
Ice climbing
Safety Centre of Excellence
Training and development
Climate change and sustainability

Guide to using the 2024 UIAA Annual Report

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Design: Abi van Twisk / KIN Studio