

Geosci. Commun. Discuss., author comment AC1
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Reply on RC1

Margaret Chen et al.

Author comment on "W.A.T.E.R. – a structured approach for training on advanced measurement and experimental research" by Margaret Chen et al., Geosci. Commun. Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/gc-2021-47-AC1>, 2022

Dear Referee (#1),

Thank you very much for your comments and suggestions on the manuscript. We will respond to all the raised points and will revise accordingly in the final version of this paper.

For the time being, concerning some of the points you raised, here is the information to facilitate the interactive discussions on this platform.

- Your point (d) about the ECTS and how the academic recognition is done by the involved universities.

Response:

Typically the workload is equivalent to 3-5 ECTS. 3ECTS were granted for the first three editions in Belgium, and 5ECTS were granted for the 4th(at Bologna)and the 5th(at Bolzano)editions in Italy.

Briefly, the academic recognition is realized in accordance with the education and other relevant regulations defined by the respective host university.

- Your point (e) about the teaching materials

Response:

The teaching materials are prepared in advance and distributed to the participants during the event.

- Your point (f) about how other institutions/IAHR members can benefit from this activity

Response:

Based on our recent experience, other institutions/IAHR members can benefit directly by, for instance:

- Sending their members for training.
- Participating by presenting state-of-the-art techniques (e.g. UBERTONE, ILA5150).
- Proposing a request to organize a W.A.T.E.R. event.

- Your point (g) about reasonable costs, and Figure 9.

Response:

We will re-make Figure 9. Regarding costs, the W.A.T.E.R. initiative aims to be financially neutral. It is typically a 5-day event, and the fees are used to cover the major expenses including the travel costs of invited lecturers, catering, facilities, assurance, etc. The

registration fees of the first 2 editions included the accommodation costs for the participants. Due to increasing costs of accommodation and diverse preferences from the participants, it was decided to drop this option and to exclude the accommodation costs from the registration fees from the third edition onward. The registration fee from the last edition was 450eur. This fee is quite competitive compared to the fees defined by other training events nowadays, for instance, an example can be found from (<https://www.vki.ac.be/index.php/events-ls/events/eventdetail/522/-/on-site-lecture-series-introduction-to-ground-testing-facilities>).

On behalf of all co-authors.