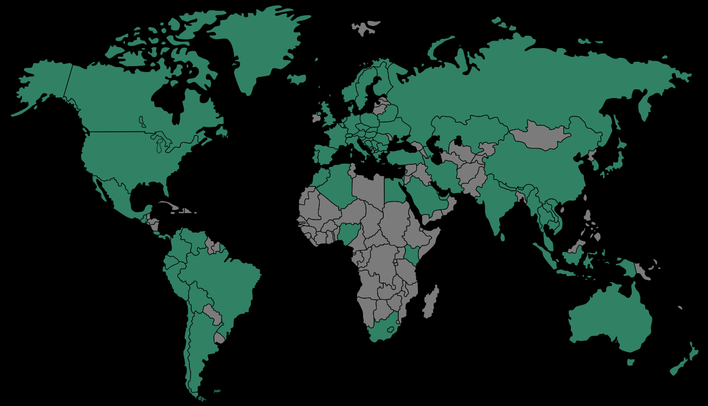
# MEMBER NATIONS

## Nations that hosted General Assemblies



Albania
Algeria
Argentina
**Australia**
**Austria**
Azerbaijan
Belarus
**Belgium**
Bhutan
Bolivia
Bosnia-Herzegovina
**Brazil**
Bulgaria
Cambodia
**Canada**
Chile
**China**
Colombia
Costa Rica
**Croatia**
**Czech Republic**
Denmark
Ecuador
**Egypt**
**Finland**
**France**
**Germany**
Greece
Guatemala
**Hungary**
Iceland
**India**
Indonesia
Iran
Israel
**Italy**
**Japan**
Kazakhstan
Kenya
**Korea (Republic)**
Lao PDR
Lebanon
Lesotho
Macedonia (North)
Malaysia
**Mexico**
Montenegro
Morocco
Myanmar
Nepal
**Netherlands (The)**
New Zeland
Nigeria
**Norway**
Panama
Peru
**Poland**
Portugal
Qatar
Romania
Russia
Saudi Arabia
Serbia
**Singapore**
Slovakia
Slovenia
**South Africa**
**Spain**
**Sweden**
**Switzerland**
**Thailand**
**Turkey**
Ukraine
**United Arab Emirates**
**United Kingdom**
**U.S.A**
**Venezuela**
Vietnam

# ACTIVITIES

### ITA Young Member group

With the increased growth of our industry, it is important that we also increase our human resources and know-how, in order to respond to society's increased demand for the use of underground space in the future. For that reason, ITA created in 2014 the ITAYM group in which young professionals under 35 and students are meeting to provide them a technical networking platform within ITA and bridge the gap between generations.
The Group brings together the ever growing number of young members from around the world looking after the next generation of tunnelling professionals and passing on the aim and ideals of the ITA.

# PRIME SPONSORS

BASF We create chemistry
BEKAERT MACCAFERRI UNDERGROUND SOLUTIONS
TRCC 中国铁建
CREG WIRTH
Epiroc
GEODATA & CONSULT GC
HERRENKNECHT Tunnelling Systems
Implenia
Ott MAPEI
normet FOR TOUGH JOBS
DORR
Robbins RELIABLE | RESPONSIVE
SANDVIK
SELI OVERSEAS
Sika
TUNNELLING consultants
VMT

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ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES TUNNELS ET DE L'ESPACE SOUTERRAIN AITES | ITA INTERNATIONAL TUNNELLING AND UNDERGROUND SPACE ASSOCIATION

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ITA AITES

# THE INTERNATIONAL TUNNELLING AND UNDERGROUND SPACE ASSOCIATION

## Promoting the use of tunnels and underground space

ITA, THE LEADING INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION PROMOTING THE USE OF TUNNELS AND UNDERGROUND SPACE THROUGH KNOWLEDGE SHARING, TECHNICAL ADVANCE AND ETHICAL BUSINESS PRACTICE

# FEDERATION OF MEMBER NATIONS

Founded in 1974, ITA is a Non-Profit and Non-Governmental Organization. Federation of Member Nations federating 78 countries at the moment, represented inside ITA. Each Member Nation has one “Representative” body or society, which can be either an open or a closed organization. ITA’s mission is to encourage the use of the subsurface for the benefit of public, environment and sustainable development and to promote advances in planning, design, construction, maintenance and safety of tunnels and underground space by bringing together information thereon and by studying questions related thereto.

### Our vision statement and challenges are:

- Increasing the awareness of public and decision makers of the unique benefits of the underground especially social and environmental benefits,
- Managing and minimizing risk and assuring safety and security in all tunnelling activities,
- Embrace sustainable development.

The network of the Worldwide Tunnelling Community is based on 78 Member Nations, 200 Corporate Affiliate Members, 17 Prime Sponsors, 60 Supporters.

The diversity of membership is our main asset as it gathers all professional involved in the tunnelling and the use of underground space such as owners, engineering agencies, town planners, architects, designers, heavy construction and specialist contractors, material and equipment suppliers, lawyers, politicians, academics and researchers, economists, financiers, mine owners and operators…

Since 1987, ITA has got the Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC, the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. ITA has been involved in Habitat II, studies for crossing of the Gibraltar Straits, reduction of poverty program, World Urban Forum.

ITA is working closely with UN Habitat on the World Urban Campaign, participating in the World Urban Forum and in different Working Groups. ITA is cooperating with UN ISDR on the program of Resilient Cities.

# ACTIVITIES

### ITA activities revolve mainly around:

**The World Tunnel Congress**

ITA co-organizes the World Tunnel Congresses at the occasion of ITA General Assemblies. WTC is the yearly world’s leading tunnelling event that explore the latest innovations, trends and advances in all areas of tunnelling. Between 1,500 to 2,000 delegates take part in this three-days event. The WTC features 150-200 technical paper presentations, along with tunnelling training courses, 200-400 poster presentations, technical visits to ongoing tunnelling projects and interesting exhibitions and shows by more than 150 companies from all over the world presenting their latest tunnelling solutions, innovations and technologies. In addition, during the WTC, ITA organizes Open Sessions on topics of importance for the tunnelling community such as:

- Immersed tunnels,
- Risk management,
- Public-Private partnership for financing,
- Contractual practices Worldwide,
- Planning modern tunnels in urban areas,
- Delivering, planning, deciding resilient cities,
- Underground space and natural resources: mining/ hydro,
- Contractual practices for the 21st century,
- Tunnels a resilient link between past and future.

**The Tunnelling Awards**

The association also organizes every year the ITA Tunnelling and Underground Space Awards. Since 2015, the international competition seeks and rewards the most ground-breaking innovation and outstanding projects in tunnelling and underground space utilization. Entries compete for the Oscars of Tunnels in the frame of 8 categories and one Lifetime Achievement. This one-day event is dedicated to the presentation of the finalists followed by a banquet which incorporates the award ceremony of the ITA Tunnelling Awards.

**Communication**

To fulfill its objectives and highlight its actions, the ITA puts in place several communication tools and channels:

- Publication of proceedings, reports and documents,
- Workshops and colloquia organization,
- Web portal (ita-aites.org),
- Online bookshop on the library website,
- Presence on social networks such as LinkedIn, Twitter and YouTube channel,
- Bimonthly electronic newsletter sent to 8,000 people, with news from the Association, the Member Nations and the Sister Associations, the World Tunnel Congresses, the ITA Tunnelling Awards and the underground space use worldwide,
- Relationship with the media,
- Communication with the decision makers.

### To achieve ITA has presently 14 active Working Groups…

- Research
- Contractual Practices
- Health & Safety in works
- Maintenance and Repair
- Seismic effects
- Immersed & Floating tunnels
- Use of sprayed concrete
- Mechanized Tunnelling
- Underground works & Environment
- Long tunnels at great depth
- Conventional tunnelling
- Urban problems, Underground solutions
- Lifetime cycle asset management
- Information Modelling in Tunnelling

The reports of the Working Groups are published as ITA Reports. The recent Working Groups publications are:

- Guidelines for the provision of refuge chambers in tunnels under construction,
- Guideline for good working practice in high pressure compressed air,
- TBM excavation of long and deep tunnels under difficult rock conditions,
- Structural fire protection for road tunnels,
- Recommendations on the development process for mined tunnels,
- Immersed tunnels in natural environment.

### … and has set up 4 Committees…

**Committee on Operational Safety of Underground Facilities ITA-COSUF**

ITA-COSUF is the platform for communication on operational safety and security in underground facilities i.e; the network to make all players meet, exchange their views and share their experience.

ITA-COSUF is open to all kinds of members (authorities, consultants, research, industry, contractors, safety officers etc.). ITA-COSUF organizes dedicated workshops and publishes strategic papers such as:

- An engineering methodology for performance-based fire safety design of underground rail systems,
- Current practice on cross-passage design to support safety in rail and metro tunnels.

**Committee on Education and Training ITA-CET**

ITA-CET’s role is to promote education and training throughout the tunnelling and underground space association and assist its coordination:

- Work with the three other ITA Committees and the Working Groups, to ensure that education and training reflect the current best practice in technology, specifications and methodologies,
- Ensure that the University Network is nurtured, proactive, extended and actively promoted, including the endorsement of university Master courses,
- Diversify the current portfolio of ITA-CET training events and develop the lecturer database in answer to the increasing interest from industry to organize education and training courses and seminars,
- Work in harmony with the ITACET Foundation,
- Implement e-learning/webinars.

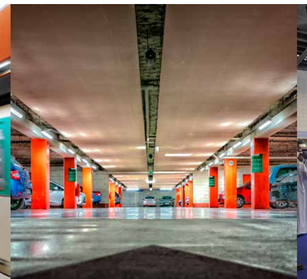
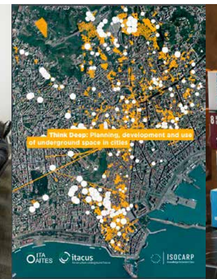
**Committee on Underground Space ITACUS**

Through outreach and advocacy with strategic global partners, ITACUS endeavors to further the cause of underground space and help cities cope with some of the major challenges they are facing in relation to sustainable development and resilience.

As part of its strategy ITACUS has supported the establishment of Think Deep groups in Member Nations of the ITA as well as an international group of Think Deep Young Professionals.

Together with its global partner ISOCARP (International Society of City and Regional Planners), ITACUS has recently published ‘Think Deep: Planning, development and use of underground space in cities’ in 2015, a book containing five case studies by planners on underground space.

**Committee on New technologies ITAtech**

Since its creation in 2011 in Helsinki, the Committee has been very active with its main goal to promote new and state of the art construction technologies and methods for sustainable development of underground space. The committee already published several guidelines on the following topics:

- Good practice of fibre reinforced precast segment,
- Vibration control in urban drill & blast tunnelling,
- Remote measurements monitoring systems,
- Monitoring frequencies in urban tunnelling.