



**PIANC**  
The World Association for Waterborne  
Transport Infrastructure

# Sailing Ahead

## JANUARY 2025

Dear PIANC Friends and Colleagues,

In this first issue of Sailing Ahead in 2025, you can access relevant information about PIANC activities and upcoming events.

PIANC is prepared for the winter meetings, which will involve the members of the Commissions and some Working Groups interacting and discussing ideas. It will also be the inauguration of the new building for winter meetings. Networking and preparing for a year of exciting events for our Association are essential during this busy week.

Memphis, Tennessee, USA will be the location for our 11th Smart Rivers Conference in 2025. At its major event worldwide, the Inland Navigation Community will meet again. Registration is now open after the abstract call closed on 31 January. We are looking forward to meeting you there and discussing the main developments related to Inland Navigation and its infrastructure. Three years after the successful conference of 2022 in Nanjing (China), the Smart Rivers Conference travels back to the American continent, where last Smart Rivers was hosted in 2017 in Pittsburgh. This signifies the restoration of its biennial nature.

The Seminar in Malaysia on 18-19 February is among the nearby regional conferences.

As this issue explains, our publications pipeline is still producing excellent reports and there are many more on the way.

Stay connected with PIANC!

FRANCISCO ESTEBAN LEFLER  
President of PIANC

**PIANC-SMART RIVERS CONFERENCE IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE - 8-12 SEPTEMBER 2025**

**Registration for PIANC-Smart Rivers 2025 is Open!**

PIANC USA is hosting the PIANC-Smart Rivers conference from 8-12 September 2025 in Memphis, Tennessee, USA.



As such, we are excited to announce that registration for PIANC-Smart Rivers 2025 is now **OPEN!** [Register today](#) to join us and engage with global experts to build a vision for a sustainable future of inland waterborne transport.

This premier international conference on inland waterways and sustainable river transport will offer technical sessions, [technical tours](#), [short courses](#), and special networking events. Learn more [here](#).

PIANC members and full-time students are eligible for reduced registration fees. Don't wait! **Early bird rates** are only available until **1 July 2025**. [Register today](#) to take advantage of this limited-time rate reduction.

More information on PIANC-Smart Rivers 2025 can be found [here](#). Also, should you be interested in becoming a sponsor at this event, please download the [Sponsorship Brochure!](#)



## STAY TUNED FOR THESE PIANC EVENTS IN 2025:

- PIANC AGA and 9th Biennial Technical Visit of PIANC YP-Com in Busan, Korea - 13-16 May 2025 - Registration will open shortly!
- [PIANC-Smart Rivers 2025](#) in Memphis, Tennessee - 8-11 September 2025
- PIANC Mediterranean Days 2025 in Tangers, Morocco - 29-30 October 2025

## PIANC-COPEDEC XI IN CHENNAI, INDIA - 21-26 FEBRUARY 2027

Save the date for the next edition of PIANC-COPEDEC in Chennai, India on 21-26 February 2027!

On 10 December 2024, the Memorandum of Understanding between PIANC Headquarters, the PIANC-COPEDEC XI International Organising Committee and the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM) was signed on the organisation of the PIANC-COPEDEC XI Conference to be held in Chennai, India in February 2027.

The first IOC-LOC meeting also took place on this day, which dealt with the date and venue of the conference, as well as the composition of the International Organising Committee (IOC), the Local Organising Committee (LOC), the Paper Selection Committee (PSC) and the Fellowship Award Committee (FAC).

The meeting also discussed the planning schedule for the preparatory work and decided on the conference theme, which will be 'Adapting Coastal, Port and Waterway Infrastructure to the Changing Climate'.

The first IOC-LOC meeting also dealt with the keynote speakers, international and local sponsorship for the conference, the preliminary programme, registration fees and the Summa Amarasinghe Award and IADC Award. During its meeting on 5 February 2025, PIANC CoCom will create a 'Fellowship Sponsoring Working Group'.

IITM will create a website, linked to the PIANC official website and the IITM official website, before May 2025. IITM and PIANC aim to distribute the first announcement in digital form in May 2025.

## NEWS FROM THE PIANC COMMISSIONS

### NEWS FROM ENVICOM

#### EnviCom WG 227 - 'A Guide for a Risk-Based Approach to Environmental Windows for Dredging and Navigation Infrastructure Works' - Progress Update

During 13-16 January 2025, the Chair and Secretary of WG 227 - 'A Guide for a Risk-Based Approach to Environmental Windows for Dredging and Navigation Infrastructure Works' assembled at the Anchor QEA offices in Seattle, US, to process all received comments of the second draft of the WG-report, and to upgrade the report to a final draft. In a good working atmosphere, this was nearly completed with few more updates from some of the WG-members still to be included as well as the final checks to be made.



The WG is looking forward to completing their task this spring.

In the meantime, the Chair will be presenting the WG 227 at the Battelle Contaminated Sediments Conference in Tampa, Florida in January 2025 and later at ASCE/PIANC Ports 2025 and WODCON, both in June in the U.S.A.

**Daan Rijks**  
Mentor WG 227

## NEWS FROM THE PTG CC

### Webinar on 'Investing in Climate Change Resilience'



The Webinar 'Investing in Climate Change Resilience', organised by Jan Brooke, Chair of PIANC's Permanent Task Group on Climate Change (PTG CC) on 7 January 2025 was attended by 128 participants.

The first presentation in this webinar introduced PTG CC's Technical Note No.2 - 'Climate Change Costs to Ports and Waterways - Scoping the Business Case Assessment for Investment in Adaptation', focusing on understanding the consequences and costs of climate change inaction. It also highlighted how sectors such as finance and insurance, can influence adaptation decision making. Jan Brooke, Chair of PIANC's PTG CC presented Technical Note No.2.

The second presentation took a deep-dive into the role of the insurance sector in incentivising action to strengthen resilience and adapt port and waterways to the changing climate. This presentation was made by Neil Dalus, Risk Assessment Manager at TT Club, the world's leading transport and logistics insurer.

These two presentations were followed by a panel discussion and Q&A session, where Jan and Neil will be joined by Aaron Healy, an underwriter at TT Club who specialises in ports and terminals, transport, logistics and container risks.

Watch the recording of this interesting webinar on the PIANC YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/OfkqTtFW4dw>.

**Jan Brooke**  
Chair PTG CC

## NEWS FROM YP-COM

### Register Soon for the 9th YP-Com Biennial Technical Visit (BTV)!

Join us in Busan, South Korea, on 14-16 May 2025 for an event filled with exclusive opportunities to visit Korea's largest and busiest port, to network and engage with global peers. BTV registration is FREE for young professionals, but spots are limited!

We warmly invite all PIANC Young Professionals (under 40 years old) from across the seven seas to be part of this exciting experience.

All details and registration will shortly be available on the AGA/BTV website, so stay tuned!

For any inquiries, please contact our Organising Chair, Hyun Dong Kim, at [hdkim@pianckorea.org](mailto:hdkim@pianckorea.org).

Don't miss out on this amazing event!

## NEWS FROM THE PIANC COMMUNITY

Some of our National Sections or national divisions have news to share on their past and upcoming activities.



### NEWS FROM PIANC JAPAN

- [Report on PIANC YP Japan Seminar AKITA](#)
- [Report on the PIANC Asian Seminar 2024](#)

### NEWS FROM MALAYSIA

- [Join Us for the PIANC Seminar 2025!](#)



## PUBLICATIONS

### JUST SHIPPED

The following publications were released in January 2025:

- WG 128 (InCom): ['Technical-Biological Bank Protections for Inland Waterways'](#) (3 parts)
- WG 230 (EnviCom): ['Green Financing of Nature-Based Navigation Infrastructure'](#)
- WG 226 (EnviCom): ['A Guide for Assessing and Managing Effects of Underwater Sounds from Navigation Infrastructure Activities'](#)
- WG 186 (MarCom): ['Mooring of Large Ships at Quay Walls'](#)



**TECHNICAL-BIOLOGICAL BANK PROTECTIONS FOR INLAND WATERWAYS**  
PART 1: BASICS OF A BEST PRACTICE APPROACH



InCom Working Group Report N° 128 part 1 – 2025



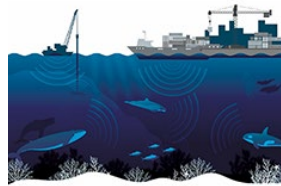
**GREEN FINANCING OF NATURE-BASED NAVIGATION INFRASTRUCTURE**



EnviCom Working Group Report N° 230 – 2024



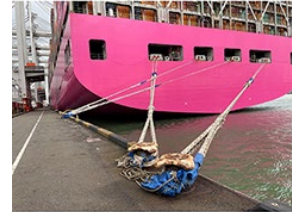
**A GUIDE FOR ASSESSING AND MANAGING EFFECTS OF UNDERWATER SOUNDS FROM NAVIGATION INFRASTRUCTURE ACTIVITIES**



EnviCom Working Group Report N° 226 – 2025



**MOORING OF LARGE SHIPS AT QUAY WALLS**



MarCom Working Group Report N° 186 – 2025

## COMING UP

The following publications will be released in February/March 2025:

- WG 224 (MarCom): 'Planning of Fishing Ports'

[Click here to find our latest publications!](#)

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