

Scottish Alliance for Geoscience, Environment and Society (SAGES)

POOL	Scottish Alliance for Geoscience, Environment and Society (SAGES)		
Original Partners	Aberdeen, Abertay, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Paisley (now UWS) and Stirling, and St Andrews together with the Scottish Universities' Environmental Research Centre (SUERC) and the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS), part of the University of the Highlands and Islands Millennium Institute		
Funding	£6.5M SFC £15.8M institutions		
Start	2006	End	2013
Original objectives			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote the pursuit of internationally competitive research at the highest level in geoscience and environmental science by combining complementary research activities and technical infrastructure between institutions with outstanding capacity and potential To secure enhanced funding for research To attract senior academics of international stature and excellent postdoctoral fellows and postgraduates To generate new opportunities for knowledge transfer 			

Funding breakdown

	SFC (£000s)	Institution (£000s)	Total (£000s)
Salaries 6 Chairs 4 Readers 22 Lecturers 7 Research Fellows (1 senior) 3 Technicians 2 Computing Officers	4,527	4,942	9,469
Capital equipment	1,141	9,868	11,009
Studentships (23)	570	799	1,369
Implementation budget	278	150	428
Total	6,517	15,759	22,275

Original Governance	<p>Ultimate arbiter All Principals, only meeting if required, no normal management role</p> <p>Board of Governance (1pa) 4 representative principals or their nominees</p> <p>Executive Committee (3pa) Director, 5 representative HoDs, one member of ResCom</p> <p>Advisory Committee (1pa) External advisors.</p> <p>Research Committee (4pa) Director, 3 Theme Leaders, Graduate Programme Convenor and co-opted members</p>
Themes	<p>Landscape Dynamics (Theme 1), the Terrestrial Carbon Cycle (Theme 2) and Atmosphere, Oceans and Climate (Theme 3).</p> <p>Integrative programme I: modelling Earth system dynamics</p>

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	Integrative programme II: Knowledge transfer
Directorate	Director Administrator Secretary

End of award

Final report	January 2014
Highlights from report	<p>Research income: Grant income from SAGES appointees £28M (SAGES members £79M)</p> <p>Research papers: SAGES appointees, 450 papers for SAGES Members this is 3300.</p> <p>Graduate school: Annual retreat, training events ie science communication, statistics, funding for external events</p> <p>Consortia including SAGES secured 2 DTPs from NERC</p> <p>Policy: Wide range of public sector engagements including: the Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation (ECCI), conceived and set up by SAGES academics</p>
Major changes/challenges	<p>Timescale: Recruitment of staff commenced in early 2006, but some posts took longer to fill than originally anticipated. It also took some time for new recruits, including the Director, to become fully familiar with SAGES, Scottish HEIs and research opportunities.</p> <p>Introduced fourth research theme – KE integrative theme became a theme in its own right 'Theme 4: Society'</p> <p>Board of Governance never met. Principals receive reports instead – too hard to schedule.</p>

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SAGES Continuation Funding

Partners	Universities of Aberdeen, Abertay Dundee, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, St Andrews, Stirling, Highlands and Islands (through the Scottish Association for Marine Science, SAMS) and West of Scotland) and the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC).		
Funding	SFC £750,000 (later reduced to £612,500) Institutions £750,000 – based on membership fee		
Start	April 15	End	March 20

Funding breakdown

	Total (£000s)
Staff costs (Directorate)	546
Studentships (20 – 50% funded)	442
Annual science Conference	75
Internationalisation	100
Research enabling	100
Other (Graduate school, Committees and admin,)	237
Total	1,500

Governance	Similar although the BoG will not meet in person unless required but will receive reports by correspondence. Advisory Board set up, 6-monthly meetings. Same four themes (but will review) with a series of fixed-term Research Working Groups (RWGs) or 'Fora'.
Directorate	Director – 0.6 Administrator – 0.6 Graduate school – 0.2

Highlights from most recent AY17/18 annual report [LINK](#)

Membership: increased to include BGS. Membership stands at 440

Graduate school~: SAGES Graduate School involved with both two Scottish DTP applications in environmental sciences (**both funded**).

Industrial internship scheme introduced, internships with Scottish Government introduced.

Directorate: Innovation manager appointed (in 16 – co-funded with ECCI) and forward-looking Innovation Programme published

Governance: refreshed advisory board has led to reinvigoration of proactive interaction with stakeholders

Have introduced 'expert finder directory'

Introduced a large proposals preparation scheme to support members in developing large collaborative bids from UKRI.

Themes reviewed as planned, and new fora introduced.