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Since 2004, HEPEX (Hydrologic Ensemble Prediction Experiment) has been fostering a community of researchers and practitioners around the world. Through the years, it has contributed to establish a more integrative view of hydrological forecasting, where data assimilation, hydro-meteorological modelling chains, post-processing techniques, expert knowledge, and decision support systems are connected to enhance operational systems and water management applications. Here we present the community activities in HEPEX that have contributed to strengthening this unfunded/volunteer effort for more than a decade. It includes the organization of workshops, conference sessions, testbeds and inter-comparison experiments. More recently, HEPEX has also prompted the development of several publicly available role-play games and, since 2013, it has been running a blog portal (www.hepex.org), which is used as an intersection point for members. Through this website, members can continuously share their research, make announcements, report on workshops, projects and meetings, and hear about related research and operational challenges. It also creates a platform for early career scientists to become increasingly involved in hydrological forecasting science and applications.