

Report 2015 of the IAH Italian Chapter

The Italian Chapter is in charge since 2012. In 2015, the members of the Italian Chapter were: Marco Petitta (chair), Daniela Ducci (secretary), Giovanni Barrocu, Fulvio Celico, Paolo Cerutti, Antonio Dematteis, Paolo Fabbri, Dolores Fidelibus, Alessandro Gargini, Francesco La Vigna, Marco Masetti, Vincenzo Piscopo, Maurizio Polemio, Andrea Sottani and Viviana Re.

During the year, the Chapter organized three meetings with the Organizing Committee of the 42nd IAH International Congress (April 10, September 3, September 13) and monthly meetings of the Executive Committee of the congress. The national Assembly has been postponed until January 22, 2016.

The Chapter devoted significant efforts to increase the number of Italian members of IAH, who reached 176 members in 2015, starting from 72 in 2011.

Several activities have been carried out on different topics, hereinafter summarized as follows:

a) Internal activities:

- visit of the IAH Council Delegate Prof. Bruce Misstear, Rome January 7, for discussing the location change for Rome 2015 IAH Congress;
- organization of the 42nd IAH International Congress in Rome "AQUA 2015", September 2015; the Executive Committee, including Marco Petitta, Alessandro Gargini, Daniela Ducci, Fulvio Celico, Paolo Cerutti and Vincenzo Piscopo, members of the Chapter, had monthly meetings, while the Organizing Committee, including all the 15 members of the Chapter and three members (Elisabetta Preziosi, Roberto Mazza and Giuseppe Sappa) met three times in 2015;
- organization of the Annual Assembly, postponed to January 22, 2016, during the "Study day in memory of Prof. Pietro Bruno Celico", Naples.

b) The IAH Congress in Rome, September 13-18, can be resumed by the following data:

- more than 900 abstracts submitted and about 780 printed in the abstract volume;
- 805 registered participants and more than 900 people attended at the congress;
- 44 scientific sessions, covering 8 main topics, with about 400 oral presentations and 370 electronic posters;
- 9 keynote lectures during plenary sessions, 7 workshops, 5 pre-congress courses, 8 mid-week field trips with more than 500 participants;
- the congress also hosted: IAH council meeting, IAH Assembly, meetings of the IAH commission/networks.

c) The Chapter has developed a series of activities with the aim of upgrading the role of the Italian delegation and the relationships with the IAH International:

- attendance at the IAH Congress in Rome: more than 160 Italian participants are registered for the event, with 170 oral/poster presentations;
- participation in other IAH sponsored congresses: Italian IAH members participated at the International conference on groundwater vulnerability (May 2015 – Ustron, Poland) and to the International Conference on Groundwater in Karst (Karst Commission, June 2015);

- organization of a post-congress tour for the Commission of Thermal and Mineral Waters in Naples/Ischia, coordinated by Vincenzo Piscopo (after Rome Congress, September 2015).
- d)** Moreover, the Italian Chapter has implemented some activities with the aim of promoting the knowledge in the hydrogeological field:
- confirmation of the sponsorship by the Journal "Acque Sotterranee"- "Italian Journal of Groundwater", with the inclusion of 2 pages-news dedicated to the IAH activity;
 - activities of the two existing Working Groups: GESTAG (Study of sustainable water management in tunnels, chair Antonio Dematteis) and IDROGEOLOGIA (Hydrogeology and Sustainable Use of Geothermal Resources in Italy, chairs Daniela Ducci and Paolo Cerutti);
 - realization of a Special Issue of the International Journal "Environmental Earth Sciences", dedicated to "Karst in Mediterranean areas", realized in occasion of the IAH 2015 congress in Rome, promoted by the member Francesco Fiorillo (editor with Zoran Stevanovic).
- e)** The Chapter has been involved also in the co-sponsorship of the following congress/conference/workshop:
- co-sponsorship of the AIGA (Italian Association of Applied and Environmental Geology) Congress, Cagliari, April 29-30 2015;
 - co-sponsoring the "Elio Botti" Award on water, Rovigo;
 - co-sponsoring of the technical short-course on "Hydrogeology from theory to practice", in Genova, 5 - 8 may, in collaboration with the Regional Geologist Professional Association (delegates Paolo Fabbri and Adriano Fiorucci).
- f)** Finally, the Italian Chapter planned the 2016 activity, including conferences and meetings; at the moment, this is the schedule for the next year:
- technical short-course on "Protection and Management of groundwater withdrawals", the second edition of this itinerant course previewed for the first semester, in Rome or Naples, in collaboration with the Regional Geologist Professional Association (delegates Paolo Fabbri and Marco Masetti);
 - organization of a Workshop on Groundwater during the GEOFLUID event, Piacenza, October 2016;
 - co-organization of the "Study day in memory of Prof. Pietro Celico", Naples, January 22, 2016;
 - co-organization of the AIGA (Italian Association of Applied and Environmental Geology) Young Researchers Conference, Bologna, February 18-19 2016;
 - co-organization of two sessions at the 88° Congress of SGI (Italian Geological Society), Naples, September 2016.

Roma, January 31, 2016

Marco Petitta
Chairman of the IAH Italian Chapter

