

IAH Network on Coastal aquifer Dynamics and Coastal Zone Management (CAD-CZM) (www.iah-cad-czm.net)

Report on activities in 2016

A meeting of the *IAH Network on Coastal aquifer Dynamics and Coastal Zone Management (CAD-CZM)* was held during the 43rd IAH Congress in Montpellier on September 27, 2016, from 10:00-11:30, in the presence of 17 members. The Director Giovanni Barrocu reported on the activities carried out since the last meeting held in Rome during Aqua 2015. He announced his will to hand the task of directing the network to younger hands. Candidates to tackle this responsibility would be very welcome.

He took the opportunity to thank Giuseppe Sappa, the IAH-CAD-NET-CZM website manager, for the great job he has done so far with his collaborators to establish the website, and keep it working. In fact, he also could be a good candidate, and however he will continue to take care of the website for the best.

The network was established to meet the recommendations issued on different occasions by UNESCO and IAEA for studying coastal areas in the frame work of different joint programmes launched in cooperation with other international agencies.

A network website (<http://www.iah.cad-czm.net>) was implemented by Giuseppe Sappa from the University 'La Sapienza' of Rome, who showed to the participants how it is structured. The network aims to collect geo-referenced data on the hydrogeological characteristics of coastal aquifers from all over the world. Thus, network members may compare and share their information, which is available for researchers, professionals, and stakeholders. The continuous exchange of knowledge and ideas on hydrological and hydrochemical process dynamics could suggest and improve the most effective long-term management strategies for water resources endangered by saltwater intrusion.

The structure of the website is hierarchically organized into six pages, containing the lists of the coastal aquifers identified in six macro-geographical regions (Northern and Central America, Europe, Asia, Latin America, Africa, and Oceania). Network members provide the data on the coastal aquifers they have been studying by completing a brief questionnaire which includes information about lithology, hydrogeological and hydrochemical characteristics, salinity sources, special features, applied monitoring methods, numerical modelling, management strategies, and seawater and brackish groundwater desalination technologies adopted.

Data referred to more than one hundred coastal aquifer studies have been collected. About forty questionnaires were completed, partly directly by study authors, partly by the website manager and his collaborators. Data were uploaded after having them validated by the researchers responsible for the investigations. Up to now, more than 50 questionnaires have been reviewed and published on the website, and about 100 are under validation. Thus, the development of the IAH-CAD-NET-CZM website is in progress.

All available data may be seen and downloaded from the website by clicking on Google Maps bookmarks. The data collected so far on coastal aquifers from all over the world constitute the basis for a comparative analysis of the most adopted investigation and monitoring methods for seawater intrusion, vulnerability mapping, groundwater protection technologies, and institutional planning and management.

The network is open to non-member specialists who might be encouraged to join IAH and contribute to development of knowledge on coastal water resources management. The website was presented on the internet at the poster session, and attracted the interest of many congress participants.

The polls for the new network Director were held in December via internet on the network site (<http://www.iah-cad-czm.net/>). Thirty voters out of 30 elected Giuseppe Sappa from Italy and Yossi Yechieli from Israel as Director and Co-Director.

Giovanni BARROCU

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