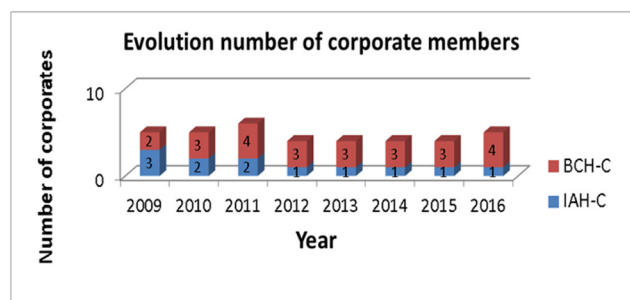
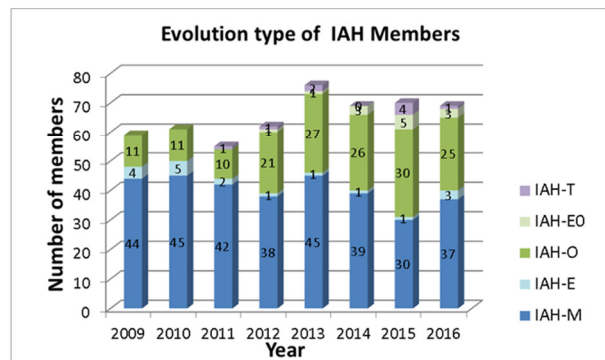
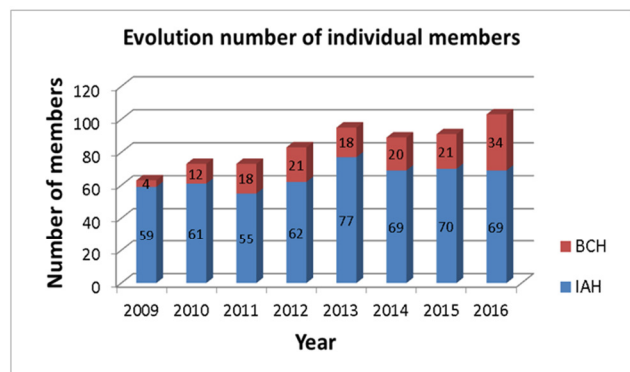


2016 Report of the Belgian National Chapter of the IAH

The “Comité Belge des Hydrogéologues” (CBH) in French and “Belgisch Comité voor Hydrogeologen” (BCH) in Dutch, CBH-BCH, acts as the National Chapter of the IAH in Belgium.

In 2016, the number of members of the CBH-BCH increased to 103 individual members, and 5 corporate members.

Total members of 2016		IAH + BCH	IAH	BCH
Corporates		5	1	4
People		103	69	34
(incl through corporate)				
of which	M	69	37	32
	Online	25	25	
	Student	4	3	1
	Student-OnLine	3	3	
	Retired	2	1	1



In 2016, the Council of the CBH-BCH was composed of 14 elected members and the council met four times (on 15/01/2016, on 29/02/2016, on 22/04/2016, and on 21/10/2016) in order to plan and coordinate the committee’s activities.

The 2016 General Assembly of the CBH-BCH took place on January 15, 2016. It was hosted by Vivaqua in Brussels, one of the major drinking water suppliers in Belgium.

In 2016, the following activities were organized by the CBH-BCH:

1. Annual General Assembly

Following the General Assembly, two presentations were held:

- Jan DIELS from KU Leuven, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, KU Leuven, gave a presentation about ‘Losses of N and P from agriculture to surface water in Flanders: ArcNEMO model results with emphasis on the groundwater’.
- Philippe MEUS, European Water Tracing Services, about ‘Use of fluorescent tracers in groundwater: art or science ?’



2. Study day 2016

The study day 2016 of the CBH-BCH took place on June 3th, 2016 in Mol. The theme was "Groundwater and Climate Change".

Five presentations were given in the morning at SCK•CEN (Belgian Nuclear Research Centre) at Mol. The presentations handled about Climate change and coastal aquifers, Impact of climate changes on the groundwater resources of a chalk aquifer, Modelling the impact of possible future climate for radioactive waste disposal, The phreatic groundwater level indicator: monthly status assessment & forecasts and Reading past hydrology from the landscape.

In the afternoon field trip some geological outcrop were visited.

41 people (not including the speakers) took part in the study day.

3. Evening classes

On 18/02/2016, 25/02/2016 and 3/03/2016, evening classes took place at campus of Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB). The theme was 'an introduction to groundwater modelling'. There were 22 participants coming from private environmental consulting companies and from the public sector. The evaluation comments were positive and it is clear that there is a high demand for evening classes about hydrogeology. Therefore it was decided to organise new evening classes in the future.

4. Launch of the new website

The new website, hosted by IAH, has been officially launched and is publicly reachable at <https://belgium.iah.org>.

5. Possible organization IAH conference 2021 in Belgium/Brussels

The first ideas were developed for the organization of the IAH conference 2021 in Belgium/Brussels. We will celebrate our 20th anniversary. So, this would be a good opportunity. A feasibility assessment will be performed in 2017.

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