

Report 2017 of the IAH Italian Chapter

The Italian Chapter is in charge since January 2017, after the elections held in December 2016. On February 2, the new Council appointed Daniela Ducci as chair and Sergio Rusi as secretary. Moreover, the Council co-opted two more members, as representative of the professionals. The elected (el.) and co-opted (c.) members of the Italian Chapter are 14: Daniela Ducci (chair, el.), Sergio Rusi (secretary, el.), Luca Alberti (el.), Paolo Cerutti (c.), Paolo Fabbri (el.), Alessandro Gargini (el.), Francesco La Vigna (el.), Marco Masetti (as Coordinator of the Hydrogeology at Italian Geological Society), Marco Petitta (as Vice-President for Western and Central Europe), Vincenzo Piscopo (el.), Maurizio Polemio (el.), Andrea Sottani (c.), Viviana Re (el.) and Daniela Valigi (el.).

Among the Italian members we have to remember some international assignment: Marco Petitta is part of the IAH Council, as Vice-President for Western and Central Europe; Viviana Re is co-Chair of the IAH "Burdon Groundwater Network for International Development"; Giuseppe Sappa is co-Chair of the IAH Network for "Coastal Aquifer Dynamics and Coastal Zone Management (CAD-CZM)"; Stefania Stevenazzi is part of the Steering Committee of the Early Career Hydrogeologists' Network of the IAH (ECHN).

During the year, the Chapter organized three meetings (February 2, April 7, September 28) and the national Assembly 2017 (June 14).

The Chapter devoted significant efforts to increase the number of Italian members of IAH, who reached 196 members in 2017, starting from 168 in 2016.

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

a) Internal activities:

- organization of the Annual Assembly 2017, June 14, 2017, during the Flowpath 2017 conference, Cagliari;
- new impetus to the Hydrogeology Section of the Italian Geological Society with about 90 members, a lot of them also IAH members. The new coordinator, Marco Masetti, also publishes a bimonthly newsletter on hydrogeological theme;
- maintenance and update of the website of the Italian Chapter (www.iahitaly.it), with the insertion of the ECHN Italian Branch section.
- creation of a Facebook page "IAHItaly".

b) 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 44th IAH Congress in Dubrovnik: about 40 Italian participants are registered for the event, with oral/poster presentations (PHOTO);
- participation in other IAH sponsored congresses:
 - Italian IAH members organized and participated in Session "HS8.2.4 - Groundwater vulnerability and circulation" at EGU Meeting, Wien, April 27;
 - Italian IAH members participated in the MinWat 2017 (IAH-CMTW), Vila de Luso, Portugal, March 26 -31;
 - Italian IAH members contributed and participated in the "Congress on Groundwater and Global Change in the Western Mediterranean", Granada, Spain, November 6-9;

- Viviana Re participated in the Congress GIRE3D 'Integrated Water Resources Management and Sustainable Development Challenges, case of Arid Regions', Dakhla (Morocco), December 6-8;
 - "Young Karst Researcher Prize" Award received at 44th IAH Congress by our member Giorgia Lucianetti.
- c)** Moreover, the Italian Chapter has implemented some activities with the aim of promoting the knowledge in the hydrogeological field:
- official Agreement with the National Council of Geologists for supporting actions (formation, dissemination, events) in the field of hydrogeology, signed in December;
 - 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;
 - distribution free of charge of printed copies of the "Italian Journal of Groundwater" among IAH Italian members;
 - support to the activities of the ECHN Italian group;
 - support of the young members of IAH who move from "student" to "full" membership, by paying their supplementary fee also for the next year (2018).
- d)** The Chapter has been involved also in the co-sponsorship of the following congress/conference/workshop:
- co-sponsoring of the study day "Elio Botti" and of the Award on water, Padua, February 22;
 - co-sponsorship of the Study day "Hydrogeological models in different environmental contexts", Napoli, March 9;
 - co-sponsorship of the Congress on "Methods for groundwater resources protection: theory and practice", Torino, May 19;
 - sponsorship and organization of the 3rd Edition of FLOWPATH, the National Italian Meeting on Hydrogeology, Cagliari (Sardinia), June 14-16, hosting oral presentations and posters of the 77 accepted abstracts, with about 120 participants;
 - assignment of the 3rd Zuppi award for the best PhD thesis in hydrogeology to the member Mariachiara Caschetto received at the 3rd Edition of FLOWPATH;
 - Freewat Courses organized by Scuola Superiore S. Anna Pisa, in Rome (June, 7-9), Naples (July 4-5), Milan (July, 10-11) and Perugia (November, 30 – December, 1)
 - co-sponsorship of the Course "Model Calibration and Predictive Uncertainty Analysis using PEST" by John Doherty and Francesca Lotti, organized by Tuscia University, Civitavecchia, 11-15 September;
 - co-sponsorship of the Workshop "Methods and Technologies for Environmental Monitoring and Modelling: Emerging Signals, Risk Perception and Management", organized by Basilicata University, Matera, September 14-16;
 - co-sponsorship of a the Study day on drought, organized by Sannio University, Benevento, November 24;
 - co-sponsorship of a the Study day on "Water: analysis and management between drought and floods" organized by the National Council of Geologists and Calabria region, Catanzaro, November 17.

- e) Finally, the Italian Chapter planned the 2018 activity, including conferences and meetings; at the moment, this is the schedule for the next year:
- course on mathematical models at University “G. d’Annunzio” – Chieti, February, 1-3;
 - study day "Elio Botti" and award on water, Padua, February 21;
 - study day on Water Resources at Accademia dei Lincei, Rome, March, 22;
 - Session “HS8.2.4 Groundwater flow understanding in water management: Environmental problems and potential interactions with subsurface water ecosystems” and sessions IE4.3/SSS13.73/AS5.19/BG1.20/ESS11.8/HS11.4/NH11.13 - *Geostatistical and statistical tools to perform the data fusion of large datasets in geo-engineering and environmental studies (co-organized)* at EGU Meeting, Wien, April;
 - participation and contribute in the International Conference on New Approaches to Groundwater Vulnerability, Ustroń (Poland), June, 4 - 8.
 - conference organized by the sections Hydrogeology and Geosciences and Information Technologies of the Italian Geological Society in Sarzana (SP), June 11-13;
 - co-sponsorship and dedicated hydrogeological session at the AIGA (Italian Association of Applied and Environmental Geology) Conference, Courmayeur, June, 27 – 29;
 - participation in the 45°IAH Congress and organization of a Bilateral session Korea-Italy on “Monitoring and Management of Coastal aquifers”, Daejeon (Korea), September, 9-14;
 - co-sponsorship and dedicated sessions at the 89° Congress of SGI (Italian Geological Society), Catania, September.
 - co-sponsorship of GEOFLUIDS 2018 Piacenza, October, 3-6.
 - workshop on “Use of groundwater resources during droughts”, Florence, December, 10.

Naples, February 2018

Daniela Ducci
Chair of the IAH Italian Chapter

