

# Activity report from Makoto Taniguchi as the IAH Regional Vice President of Asia

## April. 2017 – Mar. 2018

As regional activities in Asia chapters of IAH, the Asia Chapters meeting was held on September 28, 2017, during the 44<sup>th</sup> IAH2017 at Dubrovnik, Croatia. This is the first activity of Asia Chapters to discuss regional collaborations on groundwater and hydrogeology in Asia. Around 30 members attended this meeting from China, Korea, Japan, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia as well as some council members including Dr. Wendy Timms, Prof. David Kremer, Dr. Teodora Szocs, and Prof. Ken Howard.

As the number of IAH members in Asia is increasing, Asia chapters of IAH try to encourage the members from Asian countries to be more involved in IAH's commissions and networks including new proposals, to make Asian research network efficiently and actively, and to make effective connections of Asian young hydrogeologists to the IAH ECHN beyond the language barriers. Another important issue of the meeting was promotion of the 45<sup>th</sup> IAH2018 which will be held on Sep.9-14, 2018 at Daejeon, Korea (<http://www.iah2018.org/>). Ten themes were already proposed by organizing and scientific committees of IAH2018, then a couple of sessions under each theme will be developed soon, and will be promoted through IAH international and Asia chapters.

To promote this 45<sup>th</sup> IAH congress, some pre-activities of IAH2018 were held in Korea. One of these activities was the 9th Jeju World Water Forum "Sustainable Development and Value Creation of Water Resources in the Asia-Pacific Region". This forum was organized by JPDC and UNESCO-IHP and held on September 20-21, 2017 just before IAH2017, in Maison Jeju Grand Hotel, Jeju city, Korea. More than 300 people gathered to

discuss the sustainable water issues including groundwater in the Asia-Pacific Region. Another activity was “2017 International Symposium of Groundwater” which was organized by Korean Society of Soil and Groundwater Environment, and held in Jeju, Korea. This symposium focused on sustainable groundwater and global cooperation under the environmental change, and it is for commemoration and publicity of IAH2018. Prof. Seong-Taek Yun (Korea), Dr. Yongje Kim (Korea), Dr. Oranji Lorphensri (Thailand), Dr. Wendy Timm (Australia), Prof. Ken Haward (Canada) and myself attended the symposium. More information of these activities will be found at <http://www.jagh.jp/global/g/english.html>