



The French Chapter of the International Association of Hydrogeologists

The French Committee of Hydrogeologists



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Drilling water well in Brittany
© BRGM



Armentières spring.
Drinking water
supplies for Paris
© A. Gutierrez

The International Association of Hydrogeologists

was created in 1956 during the Mexico International Geological Congress.

IAH has over 4000 members based all around the world, and over 40 National Chapters, but also several Commissions, Networks and Working Groups.

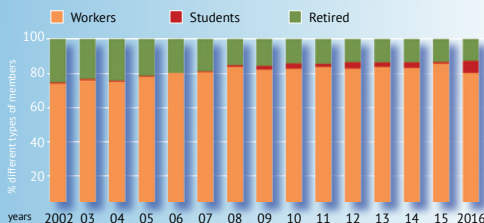
IAH's main objectives are to further the understanding, wise use and protection of groundwater resources throughout the world, and to favor technical and scientific exchanges between hydrogeologists worldwide by:

- A scientific journal (Hydrogeology Journal) and two book series (International Contributions to Hydrogeology and Selected Papers), all containing material essential to persons undertaking groundwater-related research, work and study.
- The organization of National and International Congresses and Conferences.

Main objectives:

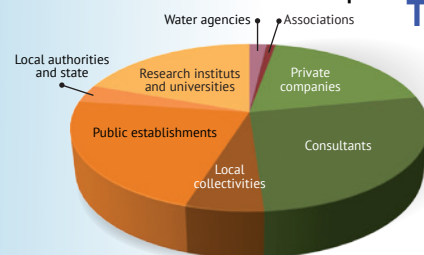
- Play a role in the progress of theoretical and applied hydrogeology, particularly concerning groundwater in France.
- Contribute to the technical progress of the survey, use and protection of groundwater.
- Favor relationships, at the national and international levels, between hydrogeologists, among others, through the organization of Conferences and technical field trips.

More than 350 active members



Past presidents of IAH French chapter
© Laurence Chery

Evolution of association's membership



Distribution of business sectors of members

The French Chapter of IAH membership

counts more than 350 hydrogeologists from Research Institutes and Universities, State and local authorities, water agencies, and Private companies.

Membership:

1. Research institutes and universities: 30%
2. State and local authorities, water agencies : 30 %
3. Private companies, consultants: 40 %



IAH french chapter council 2014 - 2017

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Activities of The French Committee of Hydrogeologists

Main actions Conferences

2006 - Darcy's law 150th anniversary and IAH 50th anniversary. Management of large aquifers (Dijon, International Congress)

2008 - A European policy for groundwater: the objectives and actions towards the good status (Paris, International Congress)

2008 - Hydrogeology and karsts through Michel Lepiller's works (Orléans)

2009 - Water resources protection and local development: transferring the Natural Mineral Water experience (Evian-les-Bains)

2010 - The WFD after 10 years: dynamics for understanding and managing groundwater. Technical and scientific progress (Toulouse)



Hard-Rock Aquifers conference, June 2015, La Roche s/yon (Vendée)
© Pierre Marchet

2012 - Coastal aquifer resources and their management (Cassis. Side event of the 6th World Water Forum in Marseille)

2012 - LIFE+SEMEAU project: Final International Conference: Combining Forest Management, Local Development and Protection of Surface and Groundwater (Vulcania, Clermont-Ferrand)

2013 - Groundwater: Dynamic and chemical hydrology, research, resources evaluation and exploitation. In tribute to Pr Henri Schoeller (Bordeaux)

2015 - Hard-Rock Aquifers: Up-to-date Concepts and Practical Applications (La-Roche-sur-Yon, International Conference)

2016 - 43rd IAH International Congress "Groundwater and society: 60 years of IAH" (Montpellier)



2016, Fosse Dionne in Tonnerre (Yonne)
© Alexis Gutierrez

H2i section

(Hydrogeology, Hydrology, Isotopes)

Specialized meetings about the use of isotopes for groundwater studies (transit time, surface-groundwater relationships, etc.). An international Conference on this topic was jointly organized with UNESCO (2004).

Books - CFH as a Publisher

• **Aquifers and groundwater in France.** This very important collective reference work (2 volumes, 944 p.) was written by 80 French hydrogeologists. It was officially presented at the French Academy of Sciences in 2006.

• **Groundwater in France** ("Geosciences Challenges" Series), coedited by BRGM and ONEMA. Available in both French and English.

• **The book dedicated to the 150th anniversary of Darcy's law.**

• **History of French Hydrogeology.**

Technical Field Trips

2010 - Lyon – Torino tunnel, hydrogeology of Alpine glacial valleys

2011 - "Grands Causses"

2011 - Field trip of the IAH Commission on Thermal and Mineral Waters (South-Eastern France)

2012 - The Tafilalet with the IAH Moroccan Chapter (Morocco)

2013 - Aquifers in Aquitaine region: from Oligocene to Mesozoic. Strategic springs in Dordogne

2014 - Hydrogeology and karsts of the Vaucluse spring region

2015 - Normandy ("Basse Normandie")

2016 - Hydrogeology of the Yonne region (Paris Basin)



- 1 2016, Near Cerilly spring, on the basin Catchment of drinking water of Paris
© Laurence Chery
- 2 2010, Hydrogeologists around a drinking water well (Indre)
© Laurence Chery
- 3 2016, Jurassic in Mailly-le-Château
© Laurence Gaurcy
- 4 2011, A piezometer in the Grands Causses National Park
© Laurence Chery
- 5 2011, In a tunnel gallery at Tournemire (Aveyron)
© Jacques Ricard



Karst section

Field trips and technical days, networking, disseminating know-how and fundamental knowledge.

Awards

The Castany prize is awarded to a senior hydrogeologist with an exemplary career and remarkable achievements.

