



Personal profile

Dr. Isabelle Czernichowski-Lauriol (ENeRG President 2016 & 2017)

Institution BRGM, France

Isabelle Czernichowski-Lauriol holds an Engineering degree in geology (ENSG Nancy, 1984) and a PhD in geosciences (INPL, 1988). She joined BRGM in 1988. She is currently a *Research and Public Policy Chief Officer* at BRGM Direction of Development, with a special focus on national research through contracts with the National Agency for Research (ANR) and regional research through contracts with French Regions or through European Territorial Cooperation programmes (ERDF, INTERREG).

Since 1993, she has been involved in CO₂ storage research for mitigating climate change. Currently, she is the President Emeritus of the CO₂GeoNet Association, the European Network of Excellence on the geological storage of CO₂, comprising 30 research institutes across 21 European countries. She coordinates the French node of the ECCSEL European Research Infrastructure on CO₂ Capture and Storage (CCS). She represents BRGM in the ZEP Network Technology (European Technology Platform for Zero Emission Plants) and in the EERA CCS Joint Programme (European Energy Research Alliance).

Previously she was President of CO₂GeoNet from July 2011 to March 2015 and had a key role from 2004 in the foundation of CO₂GeoNet and its registration in 2008 as a legal entity in France. She was Coordinator of the FP7 CGS Europe project (2010-2013), a pan-European coordination action on CO₂ geological storage involving CO₂GeoNet and 34 research institutes over 28 countries. The CGS Europe project received in 2015 the 'Global Achievement Award' from the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF), a Ministerial-level international climate change initiative that is focused on CCS development. She was also CCS Programme Officer at the French National Research Agency (ANR) from February 2010 to February 2014 (part-time secondment).

She has been involved in numerous European CCS research projects since the pioneering project 'The underground disposal of carbon dioxide' (1993-1995, FP3 Joule II) up to the current H2020 ENOS project '*ENabling Onshore Storage of CO₂ in Europe*' (2016-2020) and STRATEGY CCUS project '*Strategic planning of regions and territories in Europe for low-carbon energy and industry through CCUS*' (2019-2022).

She has also expertise on wider energy issues. Her PhD and initial career were addressing geothermal energy. From 2010 to 2012, she was appointed Head of the 'Deep Aquifer' Unit within BRGM's Water Division. From 2012 to 2015, she was Programme Officer on Geo-Energy (geothermal energy, CO₂ and energy storage) at BRGM's Division of Research. Since 2007, she is the French representative of ENeRG, the European network for research on geo-energy, and was elected President for 2016 and 2017.

Her technical background is geochemical modeling of fluid-rock interactions, with applications in the geothermal, petroleum, CO₂ storage and environmental fields. She also has experience with professional training, organization of conferences & workshops, communication, and media interviews.

In 2007, she was awarded the Knight grade of the *National Order of Merit*, on a proposal from the French Ministry for Higher Education and Research.

In 2018, she received the *Honorary Award from the Nancy Higher National School of Geology (ENSG)* for her entire career and her international expertise on CO₂ storage.

In 2019, she has been admitted to the knighthood of the *Legion of Honour*, on a proposal from the French Ministry for an Ecological and Inclusive Transition, due to her expertise on CO₂ storage.

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