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1 July 2022

Subject: **Deep-time Digital Earth (DDE) Forum, 9th November 2022, Room II, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France**
Co-organised by UNESCO, IUGS & DDE

Dear Sir/Madam,

In November 2021, a milestone was reached in the world of Open Science with the adoption of UNESCO's Recommendation on Open Science by UNESCO Member States, which underpins a vision of driving the shift to open science at the global level. Meanwhile, the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), UNESCO's long-standing partner in geosciences will commemorate its 60th anniversary in 2022.

IUGS provides geoscience solutions across a very broad front, not only to the immediate challenges to Earth science but also crossing multiple disciplines. Thus, IUGS formally adopted the Deep-time Digital Earth (DDE) in December 2018 and held a kick-off meeting in February 2019. DDE is an international Big Science Program with the ambition to promote collaborative innovation of information science and Earth science. The overall mission of DDE is to harmonize global Earth evolution data and share global geoscience knowledge. An introductory note on DDE is attached for your information.

The Earth system is the cradle of civilization shared by all mankind. With the fundamental, regional and complex characteristics of Earth science, the global scientific community is actively promoting open and digital Earth science. This is a reminder of the urgent need to build consensus in the scientific community to develop and implement interdisciplinary, sustainable, open and equitable scientific solutions.

We are pleased to invite you to a Forum organized by UNESCO, IUGS and DDE, to be convened at UNESCO, Paris, on 9th November 2022 in Room II, The Forum is intended to give a comprehensive, synthetic overview of achievements of the DDE over three years as the first IUGS Recognized Big Science Program and a pilot project on Open Science, and to promote globalization and digitization of scientific research.

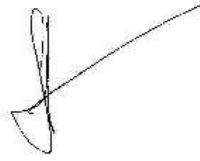
Detailed information on the Forum Program and allied activities will be shared with you before end of August 2022. This invitation is to alert all of you to this event of long-term significance to Earth science collaboration and for a new-era of contribution from data-driven geosciences research to support delivery of UN SDGs, and for you to add 9th November 2022 to your agendas in order to be part of the Forum.

We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. Please respond to Mr. Juxin (Chris) Shen, DDE Secretariat, at: secretariat@ddeworld.org.

Our best wishes to all of you and for success in our combined efforts to restore international scientific cooperation to its pre-pandemic normalcy of face-to-face and constructive engagement.



Dr Shamila Nair-Bedouelle
Assistant Director-General
for Natural Sciences
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Professor John Ludden
President
IUGS



Professor Chengshan Wang
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