
Official launch of the first IUGS Big Science program: Deep-time Digital Earth (DDE)

**DDE OPEN SCIENCE FORUM**, a Forum about Deep-time Digital Earth (DDE), co-organized by UNESCO, IUGS and DDE, will be convened at **UNESCO HEADQUARTERS, PARIS, FRANCE ON NOVEMBER 9, 2022.**

DDE is the first Big Science program of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), one of the world’s largest scientific organizations, commemorating its 60th anniversary in 2022.

IUGS adopted DDE in 2018 to promote collaboration in data-driven discovery in the earth sciences through the sharing of global geoscience knowledge and harmonization of major global earth science databases.

**DDE OPEN SCIENCE FORUM** will explore modalities of collaboration to contribute to the implementation of UNESCO’s Open Science Recommendation, adopted by 193 Member States of UNESCO in November 2021.

UNESCO and IUGS have worked together in promoting global collaboration in geological sciences for more than 50 years and DDE is a new chapter in UNESCO-IUGS collaboration focusing on Open Science through the application of FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable) principles.

DDE will bring Big Data analytics, machine learning, AI and other computational technologies and tools to enhance data sharing and promote data driven research and knowledge generation in earth sciences, contributing to the solution of global environmental challenges such as reaching the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as revealing new insights and findings in a number of earth science disciplines such as paleontology, mineralogy, and hydrogeology, and facilitating the energy transition.

Since its inauguration in 2019, DDE has grown despite severe constraints imposed on travel and in-person communications by the COVID-19 pandemic. **DDE OPEN SCIENCE FORUM** is the first international, face-to-face gathering of the DDE community, IUGS commissions and programs, and UNESCO Member States — in a way it is the “global launch” of DDE which now counts 21 Founding Members, nearly 30 Working and Task groups, and scientific representation from over 40 different countries. DDE has financed five international projects in 2021 and is currently in the process of evaluating additional projects for support under a seed grant facility established in 2022.

**DDE OPEN SCIENCE FORUM** will be the venue where major achievements of DDE during the period from 2019 to 2022 will be presented and ideas for future partnerships and collaboration discussed and developed.

We look forward to welcoming you to **DDE OPEN SCIENCE FORUM** in November!
For upcoming Program and Registration details please see DDE website www.ddeworld.org, and follow us on LinkedIn https://www.linkedin.com/company/deeptimedigitalearth, or Twitter @DeeptimeDigita1

Should you have any questions or require further information, please contact secretariat@ddeworld.org