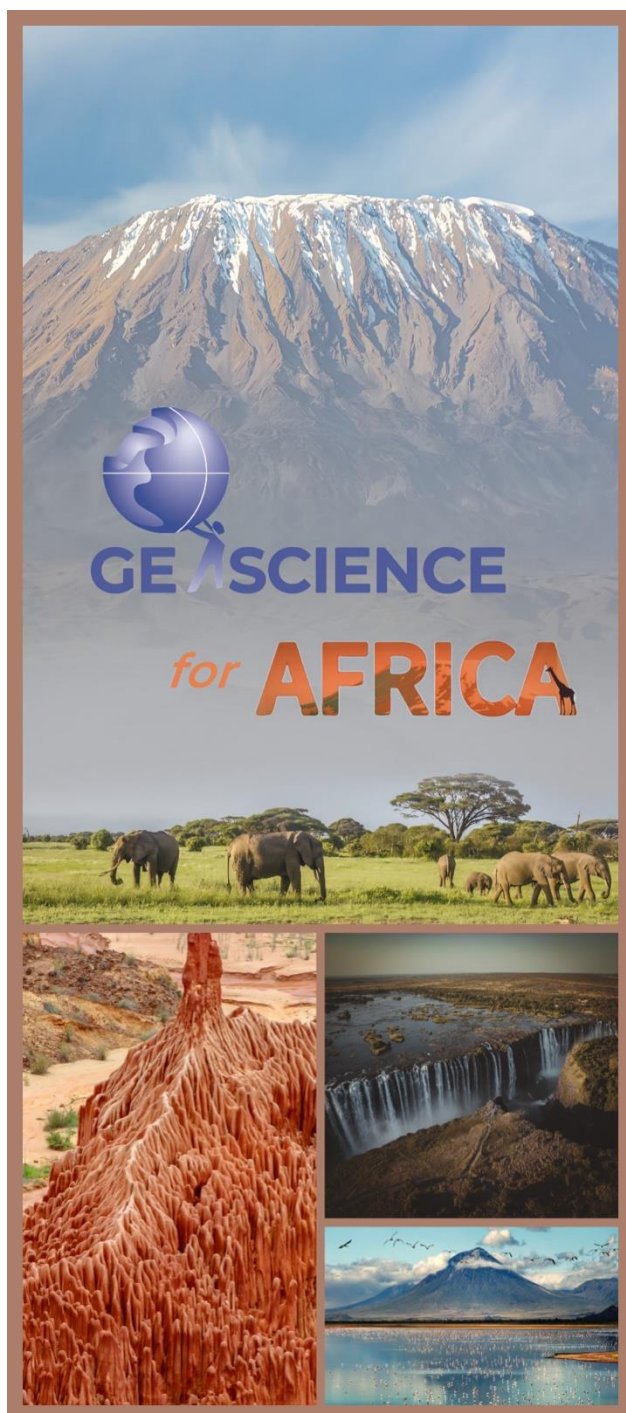


Dear Participants in the IUGS Geosciences for Africa Event,



Firstly, many thanks for accepting our invitation and we are very much looking forward to meeting you all in Nairobi. You will be meeting with the IUGS Executive Board and leaders of some of the affiliated bodies of the IUGS.

We have named the event the IUGS “Geosciences for Africa”, and our aim is to talk with you, in fact, mainly have you talk to us, about what the IUGS can do for African Geoscience - the main role of the IUGS being a global voice for geosciences which sits inside the International Science Council (ISC).

IUGS sponsors geoscience with partners such as UNESCO and other geology, and geophysics and environmental sciences focussed organisations. It also has a strong role in outreach through education and initiative such as geo-heritage.

The workshop with you all will start on Wednesday 21st February evening with a welcome reception to get to know each other, and end on the Friday 23rd February with a banquet.

On the Thursday 22nd we will theme your presentations in groups. Please keep them as forward thinking as possible with a focus on opportunities and threats for geoscience in the future.

On the Friday 23rd we will organise the participants, which will be about 30 invitees from African nations and 30 IUGS members, into rotating breakout sessions for discussions. It is from these sessions that we will build a plan which will be along the lines

of “The top ten actions for African Geoscience that IUGS can help enable”.

We will be asking you all to be involved and help facilitate the discussion. We are looking forward to this event and we will send you all a more detailed plan prior to the meeting.

John Ludden, IUGS President
Stan Finney, IUGS General Secretary