

International Union of Geological Sciences

www.iugs.org



[NEWS FROM IUGS OFFICE](#)

[NEWS FROM IUGS MEMBERS](#)

[EVENTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH IUGS](#)



Delegates attending the first Executive Committee meeting organised by the newly elected IUGS EC. This is the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic that the event attracted many participants both in person and online.

E-Bulletin at a Glance

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I) NEWS FROM IUGS OFFICE

1) Invitation of the IUGS President to represent the union at International Conferences

Prof. Hassina Mouri has been appointed Honorary Chair of the MENA Earth Science Congress to be held in Rome, Italy 28-29 April 2026 (<https://www.ierek.com/events/mena-earth-science-congress-mesc#introduction>). Furthermore, she is also invited to deliver opening addresses on behalf of IUGS and plenary talks at several International conferences, including the Earthquake and Landslide Hazards conference, scheduled to take place on 27–28 May 2025 in Islamabad, Pakistan (<https://gsp.gov.pk/geohazards-international-conference/>), the 30th Colloquium of African Geology, to be held in Nairobi, Kenya 23-27, September 2025 (<https://cag30nbi.org/>) and the 3rd International Conference on Earth and Environmental Sciences, to be held in Durban, South Africa 17-24 August 2025 (<https://icees2025.co.za>).



IUGS logo

IUGS is launching an open call for a new logo. This is your opportunity to help shape the visual identity of a global organization that promotes cooperation and advancement in geological sciences worldwide.

The competition is open to everyone! We especially encourage submissions from early-career geoscientists, students, young professionals, artists and designers passionate about Earth sciences are more than welcome to contribute. No formal background is required - just creativity and vision.

The top three designs will receive a monetary prize, and winners will be featured across IUGS communication platforms and gain recognition from the global geoscience community.

- 1st Place: USD 1000
- 2nd Place: USD 500
- 3rd Place: USD 300

If you think this could be you, please read through the [design brief](#) and send your design to iugs.socialmedia@gmail.com and cc iugs.yori@gmail.com by **30 June 2025, 11:59 PM Central European Time (CET)**.

Win up to \$1,000 & Shape Our Global Identity

<p>Call: Design the New IUGS Logo!</p> 	<p>Be part of our story! Your logo could represent IUGS worldwide.</p> <p>To apply, check the call document in our Linktree (bio).</p> 	<p>What Are We Looking For?</p> <p>A modern, versatile logo that reflects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌱 Geology & sustainability 🌐 Global collaboration 🎨 Earth-tone color palette 📏 Simple, scalable, original design <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; color: #f08080;"><i>be Creative</i></p>	<p>Who And What?</p>  <p>Open to all Geoscientists, designers, students, artists...</p> <p>Prizes: 🏆 \$1000 🏆 \$500 🏆 \$300</p> <p>Submit to: iugs.socialmedia@gmail.com</p>	<p>How Does It Work?</p>  <p>Two-stage contest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Stage 1 – Deadline: 30 June Submit 2 logo versions (normal + small) in vector format ◆ Stage 2 – For selected designs Refinements + brand manual due by 20 July
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3) IUGS @ EGU 2025:

Promoting Science Communication Beyond the Comfort Zone

The International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) was present at the European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly 2025 in Vienna, with Prof. Dr. Yamirka Rojas Agramonte, Councillor of the IUGS Executive Committee, serving as one of the co-conveners of the session “*Out of the Bubble: Can Stepping Outside Your Comfort Zone Make You a Better Science Communicator?*” The session took place on Tuesday, 29 April 2025, from 10:45 to 12:30 in Room E1 of the Austria Centre Vienna.

Our Global Public Engagement Task Team



Hazel Gibson

Head of Policy & Communications

European Geosciences Union (EGU)



Yamirka Rojas-Agramonte

Councillor

International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS)



Alex Rudloff

Secretary General

International Union of Geodesy & Geophysics (IUGG)



Mark Shimamoto

Vice President, Global Partnerships & Outreach

American Geophysical Union (AGU)



Natasha Stephen

Director of Science & Engagement

Geological Society of London (GSL)

Convened by Natasha Stephen and co-convened by Alexander Rudloff, the session brought together diverse voices from across the geoscience community to explore the growing urgency for researchers to communicate their science beyond academic boundaries. The discussion addressed the challenges of misinformation, the hesitation many scientists feel about public engagement, and the vital need to make scientific knowledge more accessible, empowering, and actionable for society.

This Great Debate session was a joint action of the Task Team on Global Policy Advice of the **Global Geoscience Societies**—a collaborative network that includes AGU, EGU, GSL, JpGU, IUGG, IUGS, and other globally active geoscience unions and societies—demonstrating a shared commitment to strengthening the role of geosciences in public communication and policy advice.

IUGS booth @ EGU 2025

The General Assembly 2025 of the European Geosciences Union (EGU 2025) was held in Vienna, Austria, from April 27 to May 2, 2025. The IUGS Secretariat set up a booth at the exhibition of the meeting to promote IUGS's scientific achievements and materials and to enhance the international influence of the Union.

IUGS publications, including *The First 55 IUGS Heritage Stones*, *The First 100 IUGS Geological Heritage Sites*, *The Second 100 IUGS Geological Heritage Sites* and *Manual of Standard Methods for Establishing the Global Geochemical Reference Network*, IGCP projects, IUGS Geoscience in Africa Event, and the latest version of the ICS Chronostratigraphic Chart attracted a number of meeting participants.



IUGS Secretary General Dr. Ludwig Stroink, Treasurer Emeritus Prof. David Cohen, Vice President Prof. Marko Komac, and Councillor Prof. Yamirka Rojas-Agramonte were present at the event and promoted IUGS activities at the booth.

Left: IUGS Secretary General Ludwig Stroink (right) and IUGS Treasurer David Cohen (left) visiting the IUGS booth at EGU 2025.

II) NEWS FROM IUGS MEMBERS

1) News from the IUGS Initiative on Forensic Geology (IFG)

Public Comment Sought on a Draft Standard on Scanning Electron Microscopy and Energy Dispersive X-Ray Spectrometry

A draft standard entitled “*Guide for the Forensic Analysis of Geological Materials by Scanning Electron Microscopy and Energy Dispersive X-Ray Spectrometry*” (WK93265) is being considered for publication at ANSI/ASTM International. There is a forthcoming public comment period that will be announced by OSAC: Standards Open for Comment | NIST and by ANSI: Standards Action Archive (anticipate announcement in Volume 56, No. 18 or 19). The anticipated public comment period is approximately May 3 to June 13, 2025. If you wish to review this document with the option to comment, please request an electronic copy of the document by emailing accreditation@astm.org. To provide comments, download the [comment template](#) and return it to accreditation@astm.org (copy psa@ansi.org). Alternatively, you may contact Libby Stern about this matter (LStern@FBI.gov).

This document originated from the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) for Forensic Science, subcommittee on Trace Materials and an earlier version was published as proposed standard [OSAC 2024-S-0012](#).

Forensic Geology Paper, Most Read in the Geological Society of London, Special Publication

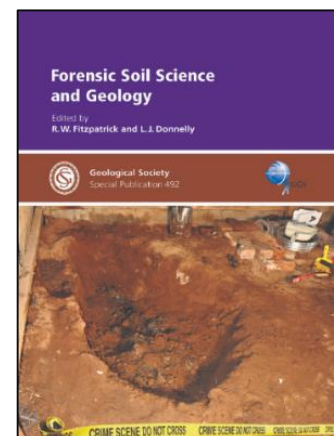
The paper, ‘*An introduction to forensic soil science and forensic geology: a synthesis*’ by Dr Robert Fitzpatrick (IUGS-IFG Vice-chair) and Dr Laurance Donnelly (IUGS-IFG Chair) was the most read in the Geological Society of London, Special Publications in March 2025. This paper is contained in the IUGS-endorsed GSL publication, ‘*Forensic Soil Science and Geology*’. It exceeded other popular papers on seismic investigations for petroleum reservoirs, volcanic hazards, geodiversity, biodiversity, and geological mapping. It is available on our [website](#).

UNODC, INTERPOL Clean Gold Programme and Traceability

Dr. Fabio Salvador (IUGS-IFG Co-officers for Latin America) and colleagues from the Brazilian Federal Police attended a meeting in Lima, Peru in collaboration with UNODC, and INTERPOL to further develop the Clean Gold Programme.

Please, visit the following hyperlinks ([INTERPOL 1](#), [INTERPOL 2](#)) for more information.

An introduction to forensic soil science and forensic geology: a synthesis', published in the introductory chapter in 'Forensic Soil Science and Geology'



2) News from the IUGS Commission on Geoscience Education (COGE)

Through public involvement, resource sharing, and international collaborations, COGE continues promoting geoscience education worldwide. Here are some highlights from our 2024 and current 2025 initiatives:

Our commissioners also contributed to academic discourse through the *Episodes Journal Special Issue* ([Vol. 47, Issue 4](#)), highlighting innovative teaching practices from around the world.




2024 Notable Events: Growing Influence and Audience


Several exciting regional webinars took place in 2024, including an in-person one in Koudougou, Burkina Faso. Teachers discussed Africa's specific ozone depletion and climate change issues. COGE's POC team helped this event use social media to boost attendance and post-event interaction.

COGE presents

Interactive Approaches to Teach Geohazards and Disasters

A Webinar Facilitated by Joel Gill, Co-Chief Executive Officer, Geology for Global Development

 Solmaz Mohadjer Founder, Parsquake	 Faith Taylor Senior Lecturer, King's College London	 Bruce Malamud Executive Director, Institute of Hazard, Risk and Resilience, Durham University	2.00 PM - 3.00 PM, GMT OCTOBER 30, 2024
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 Microsoft Teams

<https://iugscoge.org/>

In November 2024, COGE awarded Dr. Héctor Lacreu the 2023 Chris King Medal at the 2024 Argentine Geological Congress for his geoscience education activities. We enlarged our [EduResources section](#) including Prof. Lacreu's book, which demonstrates our dedication to accessibility and worldwide knowledge exchange.

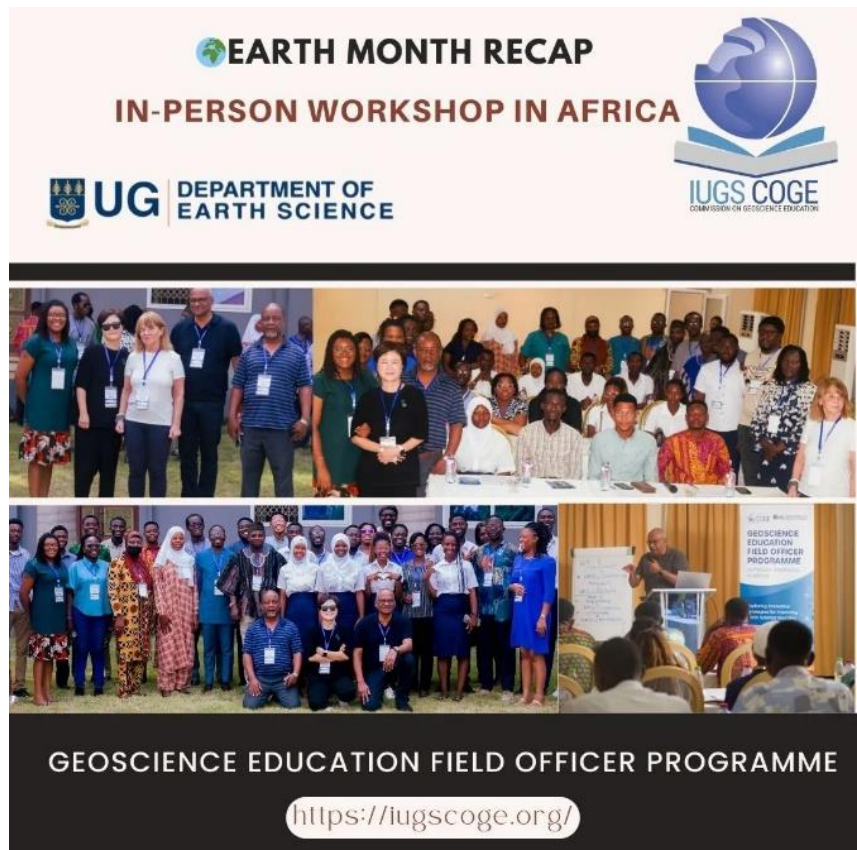
We also launched the Geoscience Educator of the Month (GEM) Campaign, celebrating impactful educators such as Dr. José Macharé Ordoñez (Peru) and Prof. Narciso Cubas Villalba (Paraguay). Through the #GEM Campaign, their remarkable stories motivate instructors worldwide.

COGE in Africa: Innovation and inclusivity

In February 2025, about 40 educators, students, and volunteers attended the GEFO Africa Workshop in Ghana. This workshop promoted field-based training and cross-border cooperation to develop the FO network internationally. IUGS President Hassina Mouri and Vice President Maria Petrizzo attended. In parallel, students from the Cairo University Art Workshop shared their work online to inspire others, demonstrating how art can serve as a creative approach to learning geoscience.

In March 2025, Romina Celabe (Paraguay)'s Spanish-language webinar series maintained COGE's commitment to linguistic diversity. At our Women in Geosciences session at UNAM in Mexico, we celebrated the International Day of Women and Girls in Science with public exhibitions, posters, and a #WomenInGeoscience social media campaign. The event supported the commission's EDI goals.

Finally, we are pleased to announce that the 2025 Chris King nominations are now open. We encourage the community to recognize great geoscience educators. Find out more at our [website](https://iugscoge.org/).



EARTH MONTH RECAP
IN-PERSON WORKSHOP IN AFRICA

UG DEPARTMENT OF EARTH SCIENCE

IUGS COGE
COMMISSION ON GEOSCIENCE EDUCATION

GEOSCIENCE EDUCATION FIELD OFFICER PROGRAMME
<https://iugscoge.org/>

III) EVENTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH IUGS



Durban, South Africa: 17-24 August 2025
International Conference on Earth and
Environmental Sciences
<https://icees2025.co.za/>



Nairobi, Kenya: 23-27 September 2025
30th Colloquium of African Geology
<https://cag30nbi.org/>



Jeddah, Saudi Arabia: 12-14 OCT 2025
GEO MIN Symposium
<https://geominese.com/>



Rome, Italy: 28-29 April 2026
MENA EARTH Science Congress
<https://www.ierek.com/events/mena-earth-science-congress-mesc#introduction>

IV) OTHER IMPORTANT NOTES

- 1) **INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSIONS:** Please adhere to the guidelines below when submitting your news for publication in the E-Bulletin:
 - **Number of words:** Maximum 300 words with links to the other sources for more details about the activities.
 - **Font and Size:** (Heading 1: Roboto 16, Heading 2: Roboto B12, heading 3: Roboto-Regular 12, Heading 4: Roboto B 11, and body: Roboto 11)
 - **Photographs:** Maximum two high-resolution (inserted in the text with caption) and attached as jpg to your email.
 - **Language:** Kindly make sure your text is corrected for language
 - **Deadline for submission to Editors:** We kindly request to submit your news by the end of each month. For example, news of June is supposed to be published in 1st week of July. Submit your news to the Editors:
Dr. Weijun ZHAO (IUGS Councillor) Shenyang Centre, China Geological Survey, China
Email: wilsonwjz@outlook.com
Dr. Farnoosh Farjandi (IUGS Councillor) Geological Survey of Iran, Iran
Email: farnooshfarjandi@gmail.com
- 2) **IUGS SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS:** Follow the IUGS on social media through [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [YouTube](#)
- 3) **IUGS website: please note that the IUGS website is still under renovation since January 2025. You will be notified as soon as it is operating again.**
- 4) **CONTACT INFORMATION:** To be added to or removed from the IUGS E-Bulletin distribution list, please email to: secretariat@iugs.org.