

International Union of Geological Sciences

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From the IUGS Executive Committee Members:

- To all IUGS supporters, members, and the global geoscience community, we wish you a very happy and prosperous International Workers' Day, May 1st, 2025!
- À l'occasion de la Journée internationale des travailleurs, le 1er mai nous adressons nos vœux les plus chaleureux à tous nos supporters, membres et à la communauté mondiale des géosciences!
- In occasione della Festa del Lavoro, il 1° maggio, porgiamo i nostri più sentiti auguri di gioiose celebrazioni a tutti i nostri membri e alla comunità mondiale delle geoscienze!
- Con motivo del Día Internacional de los Trabajadores y Trabajadoras el 1 de mayo, extendemos nuestros más cálidos deseos de una feliz celebración a todos nuestros miembros y a la comunidad geocientífica mundial!
- Zum Tag der Arbeit am 1. Mai 2025 wünschen wir allen Unterstützenden der IUGS Glück Gesundheit und Freude!
- Ob mednarodnem prazniku dela, 1. maju, izrekamo vsem našim članom in svetovni geoznanstveni skupnosti najtoplejše želje za veselo praznovanje!
- به مناسبت روز جهانی کارگر، اول ماه مه، صمیمانه ترین آرزوهای خود را برای جشنی شاد برای همه اعضای خود و جامعه جهانی علوم زمین ابراز می کنیم!
- 值此五一国际劳动节之际，我们向全体会员和全球地球科学界致以最热烈的祝贺，祝愿大家节日快乐。
- بمناسبة يوم العمال العالمي الموافق الأول من مايو، نتقدم بأحر التهاني لجميع أعضائنا والمجتمع العلمي العالمي!



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D) NEWS FROM IUGS OFFICE

1) IUGS 81st Executive Committee meeting in Paris, France

Hosted by the Geological Society of France, the 81st IUGS Executive Committee Meeting was held in Paris, France, on March 17-20, 2025. The meeting comprised the open session on March 17-18 and the closed session on March 19-20.

The members of the IUGS Executive Committee, leaders of IUGS commissions, task groups, joint programs, and initiatives, as well as representatives from IUGS adhering organizations and affiliated organizations, attended the open session. They presented their major achievements from the year 2024 and outlined the work plan for the year 2025 for their groups. The open session was held in a hybrid format and attracted more than 70 delegates.

During the two-day open session, ample opportunities were provided for discussing several vital matters, followed by deliberation by the Executive Committee members in a closed session. These matters include concerns raised by IUGS members regarding DDE governance and function. The IUGS Executive took this issue seriously and agreed unanimously to suspend all links and activities with DDE for one year until these matters are addressed to the satisfaction of IUGS members and the Executive Committee. A formal communiqué outlining the issues and the timeline for reporting was sent to the DDE leaders and all IUGS constituent groups. The letter will be posted on the IUGS website and accessible once the renovation is completed.



A photo of the delegates attending the first EC meeting organised by the newly elected IUGS EC. This is the first time since COVID-19 that the event attracted many participants both in person and online.

During this meeting, the IUGS Executive received Professor John Ludden's resignation from the IUGS Executive Committee, which includes the ex-officio roles of Past President and Chair of the Nominations Committee. This resignation was prompted by John Ludden's desire to maintain an active leadership role in the GeoGPT project and to address potential conflicts of interest with the IUGS. The IUGS EC acknowledges John Ludden's critical contribution to leading the Union, especially during the COVID period, and wishes him success in the next stage of his illustrious career. A communiqué was also sent to all IUGS members and constituent groups.



The members of EC during the closed session.

2) Meeting of the IUGS Bureau Members at UNESCO

On March 21, 2025, following the Executive Committee Meeting, members of the IUGS bureau (Hassina Mouri, Ludwig Stroink, and David Cohen) were received by Dr. Antonio D. Abreu, Director of the Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences at UNESCO headquarters. The meeting also included Özlem Adiyaman Lopes, Program Specialist for the International Geosciences Programme (IGCP), and Kristof Vandenberghe, Chief of the Earth Sciences and Geoparks Section. The meeting aimed to discuss ways to strengthen collaboration between UNESCO and IUGS.



Group photo of the IUGS bureau members in UNESCO. From left to right: Kristof Vandenberghe, Ludwig Stroink, Hassina Mouri, Antonio D. Abreu, David Cohen, and Özlem Adiyaman Lopes.

3) Meeting of the IUGS Bureau Members with DDE leaders

After the Executive Committee meeting, members of the IUGS bureau (Hassina Mouri, Ludwig Stroink, and David Cohen) met with the leaders of the DDE program (Harvey Thorleifson, Natarajan Ishwaran, and Qiuming Cheng) at UNESCO headquarters on March 21, 2025, to discuss the decision made by the IUGS Executive Committee during the closed session of the EC meeting held on March 20, 2025, regarding the working relations between DDE and IUGS.

4) IUGS 82nd Executive Committee meeting 2026

We are pleased to inform you that the IUGS 82nd Executive Committee meeting will be held in Colombia, at the Geological Survey of Colombia in Bogotá, from January 21 to January 29, 2026. The preliminary plans for the meeting are as follows: a 2-day event on the geology of Latin America, a 2-day open session, a 2-day closed session, and a 2-day field excursion. Detailed plans for the meeting will be provided in due time. We are sincerely grateful to the Director of the Colombian Geological Survey, Julio Fierro, and Jorge Gómez Tapias for their generous offer to host us.

5) Call for expression of interest for IGCP-Africa

The International Geoscience Programme (IGCP), a joint program funded by the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) and UNESCO, invites expressions of interest for research projects led by geoscientists based in Africa. The deadline is set for 15/05/2025. This initiative aligns with the current priorities of IUGS and UNESCO to strengthen geoscience research in Africa. The Ten Action Plan for Africa initiative was launched in Nairobi, Kenya, on February 22-23, 2024. It aims to promote geoscience research, capacity building, and facilitate knowledge sharing across Africa. In line with this initiative, IUGS and UNESCO will jointly support more regional projects of this kind in the future. More information can be found at: <https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/call-expressions-interest-geoscience-funding-africa?hub=67817>.

6) IUGS representation at the National Youth Geological Conference held in Shenyang, China



Dr. Weijun ZHAO, IUGS Councillor, Editor of the IUGS E-Bulletin, attended the 7th National Youth Geological Conference held in Shenyang, China, on April 26-27 to promote IUGS. The conference theme is future-oriented Earth Sciences. The event consisted of various activities, including pre-conference training, presentations, panel discussions, poster sessions, and keynote speeches. The conference attracted over 1000 participants, primarily from across China.

The IUGS Councillor Weijun ZHAO in front of the conference board.

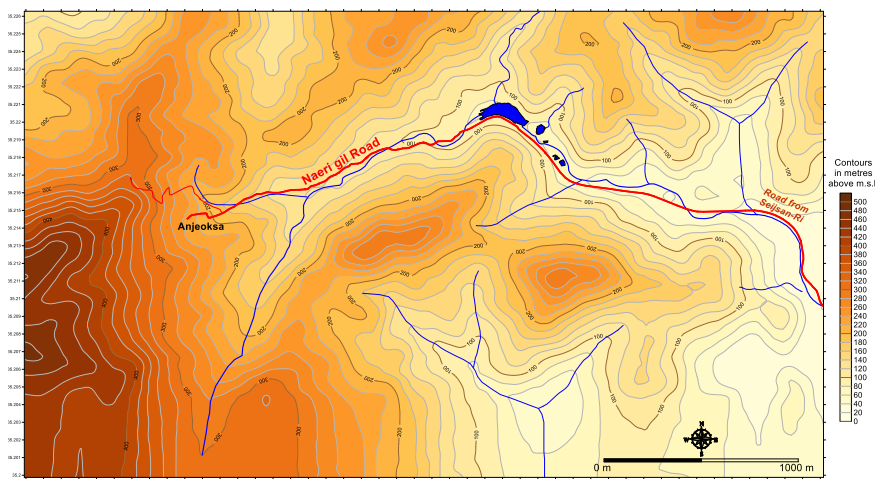
II) NEWS FROM IUGS MEMBERS

1) News from the Commission on Global Geochemical Baselines (CGGB)

A useful tutorial for making topographical maps with modern digital tools

In the IUGS e-Bulletin No. 208-209 (August-September 2024) a concise report was given about the successful 3-day workshop at the 37 IGC in Busan (South Korea) on the methods described in the “International Union of Geological Sciences Manual of Standard Methods for Establishing the Global Geochemical Reference Network”. Acting on the request of not only these particular workshop participants but also earlier ones, the CGGB will be publishing useful tutorials for use by university teachers and early-career researchers in applied geochemistry, as well as professionals.

The first tutorial should be of interest not only to applied geochemists but also to any earth scientist working in areas without topographical maps. This was the case in South Korea during the planning stage of the field training workshop. Google Earth Pro was used to locate an area near Busan, but due to the dense forest, the topography was not so clear. A topographical map was needed, and the only way was to find the available digital tools for plotting it. The digital tools used are Google Earth Pro and GPS Visualizer for the process of digitisation of points within the work area, and extraction of the altitude for each digitised point, respectively, while Golden Software’s Surfer™ is used for plotting the topographical map. Of course, any other map plotting software can be used.



Digital topographical map of the Busan field course area, South Korea. Instructions for plotting the map are given by Demetriades, A., 2025. Tutorial: Making Digital Topographical Maps, International Union of Geological Sciences, Commission on Global Geochemical Baselines, Tutorial Publication No. 1, 40 pp., 57 figures, Supplementary material; <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14453284>.

Hands-on Field Workshop for MSc Students studying at the University of Athens, Hellenic Republic

On Saturday, 22 February 2025, eight MSc students from the Mineral Resources, Petrology, and Environmental Management course at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens participated in an intensive, full-day field workshop. The session was organized and led by Alecos Demetriades

(CGGB chair), giving a unique opportunity for students to gain practical experience in geochemical sampling techniques.

During the workshop, all field procedures outlined in the IUGS Manual of Standard Methods were demonstrated. Students practiced various sampling methods, including rock and residual soil sampling, soil sampling for mineral exploration, and the collection of stream water and stream sediment (both dry and wet). These exercises took place at carefully selected locations within the University of Athens campus and a northern suburb of Athens.

Beyond technical skills, the workshop emphasized best practices in field sampling, such as proper coding and labelling, careful selection of sampling sites, and the importance of using appropriate materials to prevent contamination. Participants engaged in discussions about the critical role of precise sampling techniques in ensuring data reliability, reinforcing the link between rigorous methodology and high-quality geochemical analysis.

This hands-on experience provided an invaluable learning opportunity, bridging theory and practice while preparing students for future professional challenges in mineral exploration and environmental geochemistry.





2) News from the International Commission on the History of Geological Sciences (INHIGEO)

INHIGEO NEW WEBSITE NOW ONLINE!

The International Commission on the History of Geological Sciences (IUGS INHIGEO) has just launched its new website www.inhigeo.org providing information about the work of our Commission, members, affiliated bodies, our wide-ranging activities from the Annual Symposia, online webinars, sponsored conferences and cross-disciplinary sessions and links to publications arising from research by our members worldwide as well as our outreach series Anniversaries in Geo-history (see below). Our strength is our multidisciplinary approach – Geologists and Historians working as a team on diverse archival resources worldwide, underlining the key importance of this historical-scientific heritage for studies of the global development of the geological sciences.

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<p>NEWS ABOUT OUR MISSION MEMBERSHIP ▾ BOARD DOCUMENTS ▾ ACTIVITIES ▾ SYMPOSIA ▾ PUBLICATIONS ▾ ANNUAL RECORD ANNIVERSARIES AWARDS GALLERY ▾</p> 	 <p>INHIGEO – INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORY OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES</p> <p>Welcome</p> <p>The International Commission on the History of Geological Sciences (INHIGEO) includes an active and growing community of individuals and institutions around the world.</p> <p>Our aim is not only the historical study of geological sciences in all their forms, but also its promotion and dissemination, as well as the creation of effective links between this historical knowledge and the broader contemporary context of the Earth sciences and humanities.</p> <p>This truly multicultural approach is one of our main strengths, together with a general attitude of mutual collaboration, scientific curiosity and friendship, which has developed particularly within the INHIGEO annual meetings and fieldtrips down through the years. In order to continue this positive trend, the Commission encourages proposals of new memberships, in particular from non-represented countries and from young researchers.</p>	<p>50th INHIGEO Symposium within ICHST 2025, Dunedin, New Zealand</p> <p>INHIGEO sponsored Conference on Geoscientific Knowledge in Arctic and African Exploration, 22-24 April 2025, Oslo, Norway</p> <p>Annual Record 2024</p> <p>INHIGEO Quarterly Circular, September 2024</p> <p>INHIGEO sponsored session at IUGS-IFG 2025 Conference – 15th Anniversary, 21 – 23 May 2025, Rome, Italy</p>
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Find out more about INHIGEO at www.inhigeo.org

2.2) INHIGEO Anniversaries – 4 new contributions

2-2-1) Occasion December 2024: Elected 100 years ago

- **Florence Bascom (1862–1945) – first elected woman officer of the Geological Society of America.** By: Renee M. Clary (USA)

Florence Bascom (1862–1945) made her greatest impact in geology with the education of the next generation of US women geologists. However, her academic career at Bryn Mawr College was insufficient for her professional satisfaction, and Bascom sought opportunities within professional societies and scientific agencies.

For more information, visit the link: <https://inhigeo.org/anniversaries/>

2-2-2) Occasion January 2025: Published 360 years ago

- **Athanasius Kircher and His Mundus Subterraneus (1665).** By: Tina Asmussen (GERMANY)

The work of Athanasius Kircher (1602–1680) at the Collegio Romano in Italy was shaped by both local patronage and the transnational Jesuit network. The multifaceted legacy of Kircher finds a striking embodiment in his *Mundus Subterraneus* (1665), a monumental exploration of the Earth's natural and subterranean processes. His illustrations, which vividly depicted volcanic eruptions, subterranean waterways, and mining machinery, captivated readers and enhanced the work's accessibility and appeal.

For more information, visit the link: <https://inhigeo.org/anniversaries/>

2-2-3) Occasion February 2025: The Simplon tunnel connected 120 years ago

- **Deep Alpine Tunnel Confirms Nappe Theory.** By: Martina Kölbl-Ebert (GERMANY)

The Simplon Tunnel is a 19.8 km long railway tunnel through the Simplon Massif in the Alps, connecting valleys in Switzerland and Italy. Construction work on the tunnel started in 1898,

however, the geological profile that would be revealed was very different from that outlined in the original building plans. The findings would provide support to a major paradigm shift taking place in the understanding of Alpine geology and tectonics – Nappe Theory.

For more information, visit the link: <https://inhigeo.org/anniversaries/>

2-2-4) Occasion March 2025: National Survey – Established 150 years ago

➤ **Surveying the Brazilian Territory: The First Geological Survey in Brazil (1875-1878). By: Silvia Figueirôa (BRAZIL)**

From the 1870s onwards, geology and its institutions were pivotal in modernizing Brazil during the Second Empire and the First Republic. This was due to socio-economic demands, such as the coffee-based economy's growth since the 1840s and a rising interest in science.

For more information, visit the link: <https://inhigeo.org/anniversaries>



Charles F. Hartt, with the city of Recife in the background, during a survey by the Imperial Geological Commission (circa 1875).

III) Events Partners with IUGS

Call for participation at the following events:

GEOMIN Symposium:

Redefining Mineral Exploration Potential and Impact to be hosted by the Saudi Geological Survey (SGS).



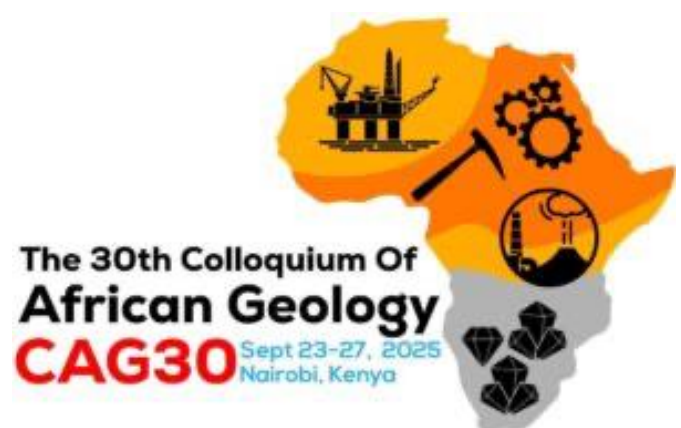
The 3rd International Conference on Climate and Environmental Science (ICCES) in Durban (<https://icees2025.co.za/>)

The first ICCES took place online due to COVID, and the second one took place in China. The third one will be in South Africa.

CAG30 to be held in Nairobi, Kenya

Conference Theme:

Unveiling Africa's Geological Resources
Forging a Path for Sustainable Development



OTHER IMPORTANT NOTES

1) **INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT SUBMISSIONS:** You are kindly requested to follow the instructions below when you submit your news for publication in the E-Bulletin:

- Number of words: Maximum 200
- Font and Size: (Heading1: Roboto 16, Heading2: Roboto B12, Heading 3: Roboto-Regular 12, Heading 4: Roboto B 11, and body: Roboto 11)

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- Number of Photographs: Maximum 2 with 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 of submission: We are kindly requested to submit your news on the 1st week of each month. For example, news of March was supposed to be published 1st week of April). Submit your news to the Editors of the E-Bulletin listed below.
- 2) **IUGS SOCIAL MEDI PLATFORMS:** Follow the IUGS on Social Media! We are on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [YouTube](#)
 - 3) **IUGS website: please note that IUGS website is under renovations for the last 4 months. 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
 - 5) **E-BULLETIN EDITORS:**

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