EFG News December 2014

EFG - The voice of European Geologists

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EFG thanks you for your collaboration and wishes you a peaceful Christmas time and all the best for 2015!

1. EFG News and News from EFG Members

EFG:

Press release EFG/PERC conference MIN WIN-WIN.
The European Federation of Geologists (EFG) and the Pan-European Reserves & Resources Reporting Committee (PERC) were glad to co-organise the international high-level conference “MIN WIN-WIN: Establishing Europe-wide minerals reporting standards – the key to reducing risk and increasing opportunity” from 20 to 21 November 2014 in Brussels. This two-day event was held at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, a privileged venue located in immediate proximity of the European Parliament, and was supported by a broad range of organisations active in the field of minerals and mining.
Discover the outcomes in our press release at http://eurogeologists.eu/press-
European Geologist 38 on Geoarchaeology now online.
Issue 38 of European Geologist – the Journal of the European Federation of Geologists is now available for online reading. The special issue on “Geoarchaeology – Reconstructing our early history” contains a selection of eleven papers from Europe and America on the links between geology and archaeology. Page through our journal at http://eurogeologists.eu/journal/

EAGE/EFG photo calendar 2015 “Geoscientists at work”.
The EAGE/EFG calendar 2015 that displays the top 12 pictures of this year’s photo contest with the popular theme "Geoscientists at work" will shortly be available in the EAGE book shop. Pre-order the calendar now by sending a short email to info.efg@eurogeologists.eu.

Geologiliitto, Finland:
Short course: Towards reliable mineral resources reporting, Helsinki, Finland, 13 March 2015.
Geologiliitto and PERC are organising a one day short course on mineral resources reporting in Helsinki. The course will be led by Edmund Sides from AMEC. The course will follow the PERC Reporting Standard but is also applicable to all CRIRSCO compliant reporting codes. The course will cover principal topics of exploration results and resources reporting codes.
· self-assessment of required skills and experience
· sampling data and techniques
· reporting of exploration results
· reporting of mineral resources
· reporting of mineral reserves
· commodity-specific and other special situations
The course language will be English. Opening of registration will be announced later (Fee: EUR 350).

GSL, UK:
GSL committed to support diversity in geosciences.
At its strategy meeting in September 2014 GSL’s Council agreed that the Society should sign the Science Council Declaration on Diversity, Equality and Inclusion and take subsequent action to foster diversity, equality and inclusion in its activities. The Geological Society is not only committed to
supporting diversity in its staff and fellowship, but has also made it a priority to encourage equality and inclusion in geosciences education and professions in general. As the UK professional body for geoscientists, GSL believes that everybody should have the opportunity to fulfil their potential, regardless of disability, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or other diversity characteristic. GSL believes that making the geosciences more inclusive will benefit individuals, the science, and society.

More information: http://www.geolsoc.org.uk

2. General

European Institutions:

The European Commission is organising its first Industrial Economics Day. It will gather world-leading thinkers for a day of open debates on the future of European Industrial Policy.
More information: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise

EC Consultation on SME support - A strong European policy to support SMEs and entrepreneurs 2015-2020 Public consultation on the Small Business Act (SBA)
The aim of this public consultation is to gather feed-back and ideas on how the Small Business Act for Europe should be revised to continue a strong European policy to support Small and Medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and entrepreneurs in 2015-2020.
The deadline for participating in this consultation is 15 December 2014
More information: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise

Agreement on Switzerland’s partial association to Horizon 2020.
On 5 December 2014 Switzerland’s Federal Councillor Johann N. Schneider-Ammann signed an agreement on Switzerland’s participation in the European framework programmes with European Commissioner Carlos Moedas and Stefania Giannini, the representative of the Italian EU Council presidency. The agreement sets out the conditions for Switzerland’s partial association to Horizon 2020 until the end of 2016. This allows researchers from Switzerland to participate fully in selected parts of the programmes.
More information: http://ec.europa.eu/research

Events:

This meeting will celebrate 25 years of geological remote sensing focusing on the pinnacle moments during this period as well as looking at the wide range of remote sensing tools, latest developments, sensors and applications that are now available.
More information: www.grsg.org.uk

DGI is the most significant event in Europe for the national security community. The summit focuses on how key decisions are supported through the provision of location intelligence for government and industry leaders from across NATO,
Europe and international mission partners.
More information: http://dgi.wbresearch.com/

3. Minerals

Events:

**IMCET2015, Antalya, Turkey, 14-17 April 2015.**
The main objective of the 24th International Mining Congress and Exhibition is to provide an opportunity for exchanging knowledge recently produced, to introduce technologies developed and to build a collaboration atmosphere by gathering scientists, academicians, consultants, and sector representatives from different areas and thus to make a contribution for improving the mining sector. The paper submission deadline has been extended until 26 January 2015.

4. Soils

Events:

**International Year of Soils 2015**
Under suggestion of FAO's Global Soil Partnership and with the support of the EU, in December 2013 the General Assembly of the United Nations proclaimed 2015 as the ‘International Year of Soils’ (IYS) and 5 December of each year as the ‘World Soil Day’ (WSD) (see UNGA resolution). In order to find out what kind of awareness-raising activities and events could be organised or co-organised by the European Commission to mark the IYS, a scoping study has been prepared on behalf of the Environment Directorate-General of the Commission. Following one of the study’s suggestions, DG Environment is working towards an extension of its website to establish a voluntary information platform on IYS activities planned to be carried out in the EU at local, regional or national levels. You are invited to support the IYS 2015 by sharing information on educational and outreach activities you plan to carry out in the course of the year by writing to env-iys-2015@ec.europa.eu.
More information: http://ec.europa.eu/environment

Publications:

**Soil erosion study brings ecosystem services approach into regional planning**
How best to integrate the ecosystem services concept into regional planning? A recent study provides a practical example for an area in Germany that is faced with an increased risk of soil erosion under climate change. Researchers used a decision-support system incorporating ecosystem services to show that measures to reduce soil losses could also support a number of other services.
More information: http://ec.europa.eu/environment

5. Hydrogeology

Events:

**2015 EWA Spring Days - Budapest Water Conference, Budapest, Hungary, 4-6 March 2015.**
This three-day event will provide a timely opportunity for public and private sector decision-makers, water utility professionals, experts and other stakeholders from
the developed and the developing world to exchange views and share experiences with leading international experts on the most pressing challenges and potential solutions in the field urban water management.

More information: www.budapestwater.org

The Italian National Chapter of the IAH, on behalf of the entire Italian hydrogeological community, is proud to host the 42nd IAH International Congress, AQUA2015, in Rome. The second circular for this event is now available and the abstract submission is open. More information: http://www.iah2015.org/

6. Renewable Energy

News:

EASME promotes Geotrainet project story. EASME, the EU Executive Agency for SMEs is currently promoting the Geotrainet project story. Geotrainet, or “Geo-education for a sustainable geothermal heating and cooling market”, was a three-year project financed through the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme and coordinated by the European Federation of Geologists that brought together a group of experts from European countries leading in the field. The project partners exchanged practices and experiences that helped to set up two training courses: one for designers, who deal with feasibility and design and another for drillers, who make the boreholes and insert the tubes. Since the project came to an end, Geotrainet is now established as an independent not-for-profit organisation that continues the training activities. More information: https://ec.europa.eu/easme

7. Oil and Gas

Events:

Shale UK 2015, London, UK, 4-5 March 2015. Organised on behalf of The Geological Society, the 2nd Shale UK Conference combines expert analysis and views from industry, government and academia. The 2015 programme will feature the latest research findings and technical developments, drawing on lessons from the US on how geosciences can enable better understanding of the challenges and empower better decision making. Confirmed speakers are now available. More information: http://www.shaleuk.com

Publications:

China’s energy security strategy
A recent study analyses China’s strategy for securing its energy supply. The author highlights key aspects of the country’s energy security strategy, focusing on
overseas investment in oil and development of petroleum reserves and unconventional gas, including fracking.
More information: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/

Scientists bury hopes of EU shale gas revolution
According to a report released on 13 November by the European Academies Science Advisory Council (EASAC) the contribution of shale gas to Europe’s energy supply security problems will be small, although there are no scientific grounds to ban fracking.
More information: http://www.euractiv.com

8. Geoheritage

Events:

Call for contributions: EGU 2015, Vienna, 12-17 April 2015.
Session SSS9.11 “Geoheritage, Geodiversity and Cultural Landscapes: key issues for present and future times”
The conveners invite in particular papers and posters related to the following themes:
- relationships between geodiversity, the physical environment and cultural elements;
- links between geoheritage and cultural heritage (including intangible heritage);
- links between geo-cultural landscapes and biodiversity, re-naturalisation;
- geoheritage and geodiversity assessment, education, promotion (geotourism) and networking.
More information: http://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org

Session GM4.4 “Landforms and Geodiversity: a key issue for present and future studies”
The conveners invite contributions with new insights in the geodiversity of landforms in different types of relief, from lowland to mountain environments. All geographical scales are considered, from the local to the global scale. Of interest are contributions investigating theoretical aspects of geodiversity, with emphasis on landforms, including conceptual and computational problems, as well as applied contributions with examples from different morphogenetic domains and specific landforms characteristics. Analytical and synthetic approaches of an integrated assessment of landforms and geodiversity by means and methods of geoinformation (GIS) are expected. Emphasis will be on modern (new) tools and original viewpoints.
More information: http://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org
Session EOS8 - Geoethics for Society: general aspects and case studies in geosciences.
The conveners invite abstracts on both practical and theoretical aspects of Geoethics, including case studies. The aim of the session is to develop ethical and social perspectives on the challenges arising from human interaction with natural systems, to complement technical approaches and solutions, and to help to define an ethical framework for geoscientists’ research and practice in addressing these challenges.
More information: http://www.iapg.geoethics.org
The deadline for submitting abstracts is 7 January 2015.

Publications:
“Geoethics, Ethical Challenges and Case Studies in Earth Sciences”.
Edited by two experts in the area this new publication addresses a range of topics surrounding the concept of ethics in geoscience, making it an important reference for any Earth scientist with a growing concern for sustainable development and social responsibility. This book will provide the reader with some obvious and some hidden information you need for understanding where experts have not served the public, what more could have been done to reach and serve the public and the ethical issues surrounding the Earth Sciences from a global perspective.
More information: http://store.elsevier.com

9. Jobs and Training

For more information on jobs and training possibilities please visit the EFG website. You will also find there an updated list of job vacancy platforms all over Europe.

We hope you enjoyed reading our monthly newsletter and would be pleased to receive your comments, feedback or information on events relevant to the geological profession in Europe. The deadline for submitting news items for the next issue of GeoNews is the 10th of January 2015.

Best wishes,
EFG Office

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