

European Federation of Geologists

GEONEWS November 2007

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1. GENERAL NEWS

EVENTS

- **EFG COUNCIL MEETING, BRUSSELS 1-2 DECEMBER 2007.**
Geological Survey of Belgium, Rue Jenner, 13, B-1000, Brussels, Belgium
- **FIFTH GERMAN GEOLOGISTS' DAY WITH THE AWARD OF THE "STEIN IM BRETT". BONN 10 NOVEMBRE 2007.**
The Fifth day begins with the conference "Our relentless Planet: German contribution to the International Year of Planet Earth". BDG Berufsverband Deutscher Geowissenschaftler e.V. Hotel Königshof, Adenauerallee 9, 53111, Bonn, Germany.

2. SOIL AND GEOHERITAGE

DRAFT CONCLUDING STATEMENT FROM THE SIBIU WORKSHOP ON GEODIVERSITY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGIONS

EFG workshop organized in collaboration with TAIEX, European Geoparks Network, Hateg Country Dinosaurs European Geopark and Geological Survey of Romania.

The participants from 25 European countries at the TAIEX Workshop on 'New Practices in Geodiversity for Sustainable Development of the Regions', 8-10 October 2007, in Sibiu, Romania:.

1. Confirmed the great benefits and importance of international exchange of expertise and knowledge about geodiversity and sustainable development of the regions.
2. Recognized the significant value of geodiversity and geosystem services:
 - as an intrinsic part of Europe's natural heritage;
 - as a foundation for biodiversity;
 - in underpinning cultural heritage in Europe;
 - in contributing to sustainable economic development through local community involvement in geotourism and expansion of the European Geoparks Network;

- in conferring public health benefits through opportunities for outdoor recreation and enjoyment of the natural world;
- through the application of earth system process understanding in the management and mitigation of the impacts of climate change, flooding and sea-level rise;
- through the role of soil functions in supporting food and fibre production, providing environmental services and as a sink/source of greenhouse gases.

3. Recommended continuing future exchange of information and expertise on geodiversity and sustainable development through facilitation and support for:

- twinning and mentoring between existing Geoparks and prospective applicant Geoparks in the new member states, candidate countries and potential candidate countries and territories;
- international collaboration to develop bids for funding for community-based projects of common interest, for example through FP7 projects, future INTERREG initiatives, LIFE Plus and other programmes;
- better integration of geodiversity in existing and future EU Directives and other measures related to nature conservation, land and water management, landscape, soils and sustainable development;
- co-ordinating the compilation of common tools and standards for best practice in geotourism, geodiversity interpretation and the sustainable management of land, water, the coast and soils;
- publications and other media promoting awareness of pan-European geodiversity values and the pressures and threats to Europe's geoheritage;
- the formation of focus groups to address specific issues of common concern across Europe; for example, the post-closure integrated management of quarries for geodiversity, biodiversity and recreation.

LEGISLATION

Soil Framework Directive

Parliament's Environment Committee voted on 9 October in favour of a Commission proposal that gives member states considerable room for manoeuvre on soil protection.

The Environment (ENVI) Committee's vote on the report by Christian Democrat MEP Cristina Gutierrez-Cortines follows an earlier deliberation that revealed significant disagreements between MEPs. Members from the EPP-ED group had even called, unsuccessfully, for an outright rejection of the proposal on the grounds that it lacked coherence and that more time was needed by member states to study different soil management and protection options.

Despite the differences, MEPs voted to move the dossier forward. The main provisions of the vote include a requirement for member states to draw up public inventories of contaminated sites, to be updated every two years. Acidification, biodiversity loss and climate change effects are to be included among the criteria used to monitor soil degradation. Member states will also need to draw up soil remediation strategies (with an allocation of appropriate funds) seven years after the transposition of the directive, and 'risk reduction targets' will need to be set for the most severely contaminated areas. The Parliament is expected to finalize its first reading during a November plenary session, and the Portuguese EU Presidency is hoping to reach a political agreement during an Environment Council on 17 December.

3. NATURAL HAZARDS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

REPORT

- **“Good practice for delivering flood related information to the general public”**
Published by European Commission, Joint Research Centre, EXCIFF (European exchange circle on flood forecasting)

The document is also available for download at:

<http://exciff.jrc.it/>

and at the WISE webpage
<http://water.europa.eu/content/view/13/27/lang,en/>

4. GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

EVENTS

- **ENGINE Workshop 7 "Risk Analysis for Development of Geothermal Energy"**
7 - 9 November 2007. Leiden, Netherlands
Further information: <http://engine.brgm.fr>
- **ESEC Workshop: 'Finance geothermal energy'**
16 November 2007, Brussels, Renewable Energy House
Further information: <http://www.esec.org/>
- **CEDEX Workshop: "Use of the Geothermal Energy in the construction sector"**
27 November 2007, Madrid, Spain
Further information: Virginia.Pantin@cedex.es
- **New developments and technologies – Supercritical fluids, Hot Dry Rock/Enhanced Geothermal Systems, Drilling Technology.** Special Symposium GET-04, in the framework of the 33rd International Geological Congress (the largest conference event in earth sciences), to take place 6 -14 August 2008 in Oslo.
In order to move ahead with our planning we ask you to express your interest of participation to us and we look forward to your answer before **15 November 2007**.
Further information: Ladsí Rybach, rybach@geowatt.ch; Gudmundur Omar Fridleifsson, gof@hs.is
www.33igc.org

6. MINERALS

European Commission will launch a Consultation on Sustainability of Extractive Industry Enterprises: To examine the factors that affect the long term sustainable supply of non-energy raw materials (primary, secondary) to the EU economy and to ensure a *coherent* political approach to the questions arising (broad policy-defining document).

EFG Panel of Experts on Minerals Resources and Reserves will participate on the consultation process with the coordination of Slavko Solar, slavko.solar@geo-zs.si

EVENTS

- **International Mineral Resource Reporting - Avoiding the Pitfalls: *Lessen your risks when project economics change***
19th November 2007 at The Geological Society of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly
Registration: Please e-mail your contact details to helen.vickery@amec.com
- **TAIEX workshop on sustainable use of natural resources**
Date: 10-11 December 2007; location: Ljubljana, Slovenia
The full title of this event is "Thematic strategy on sustainable use of natural resources and sustainable development indicators and best practices on minerals intelligence". It is organized under the terms of the Technical Assistance Information Exchange Unit of the European Commission, DG Enlargement (TAIEX) in cooperation with the Geological Survey of Slovenia (GeoZS) and EuroGeoSurveys. For more information please contact Mr Slavko Šolar of GeoZS at: slavko.solar@geo-zs.si

6. JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- **Senior Hydrologist/hydraulic Engineer**

Location: Afghanistan

Requirements: Hydrologist/Hydraulic Engineer

Job Description: The Louis Berger Group requires an experienced Hydrologist/Hydraulic Engineer for an ongoing USAID sponsored road design and construction project in Afghanistan.

Information at: <http://www.hydrology-jobs.com/jobid511.html>

- **Project Manager Environmental**

Location: Sacramento, CA

Requirements: Engineering-Site Remediation

Job Description: Salary: \$90,000 - \$110,000 annually (Relocation Assistance available).

Details at: <http://www.hydrology-jobs.com/jobid509.html>

- **Water Quality Specialist**

Location: Sacramento, CA

Requirements: Hydrologist/Hydraulic Engineer

Benefits: Medical, Dental, Vision, Retirement and Relocation Assistance. Three weeks of paid vacation per year, six leave and paid holidays upon hire.

Details at: <http://www.hydrology-jobs.com/jobid489.html>

- **Graduate Geologist**

Location: Dublin

Requirements: Graduate environmental scientists/engineers or geologists.

Job Description: Tobin Consulting Engineers want to recruit 3 graduate environmental scientists/engineers or geologists for the National Groundwater Protection Scheme Mapping Programme. The offer is a full-time post, initially working on the above project and thereafter deployed within Tobin Environmental Division Dublin. It is planned that the work will commence in mid-end November 2007, or as soon as is practicable. Candidates will be deployed on a full-time basis on the National Groundwater Protection Scheme Project until completion (3-4 years) and thereafter deployed to other TOBIN Environmental Projects. CV to: Tobin Consulting Engineers, Block 10-4, Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Dublin 15. E-Mail: mark.conroy@tobin.ie.

- **Graduate Geologist**

Location: Ireland

Requirements: Geologist with third-level Earth Science qualification and some experience in the exploration/mining industry (would be desirable).

Job Description: BRG Ltd. is seeking a **Geologist** to work on mineral exploration and geological projects in Ireland. The job will be based from our field office at Dromkeen, Co. Limerick, but a willingness to travel within Ireland and abroad is important. A full driving licence is essential. Candidates should be enthusiastic, self-motivated with a willingness to travel. The candidate will be working with an experienced exploration team and will require good interpersonal and

communication skills. Computer literacy and experience with geological orientated software packages such as MapInfo would be an advantage. Please respond by Friday 9th November 2007 including a detailed CV to: Dave Blaney P.Geo,BRG Limite, Block C, Unit 8, Athy Business Campus, Athy, Co. Kildare. blaneyd@gmail.com

- **Assistant Professor earth surface processes.**

Location: Utrecht University

Requirements: Assistant Professor Earth Surface Processes: Land Degradation & Geo-computation

Job Description: Faculty of Geosciences. The position is a tenure position but there will be an evaluation after one year. Deadline for application is 20 November 2007.

Details at: <http://www.geo.uu.nl/> ; <http://www.uu.nl/>

- **Assistant Professor**

Location: Netherlands

Requirements: Assistant Professor in Geohazard and Risk Analysis.

Job Description: At the Earth Systems Analysis Department of the International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC) in the Netherlands. Deadline for application is 22 nov 2007.

Details at: http://www.itc.nl/about_itc/vacancies/2007_014.asp ; <http://www.itc.nl/unu>

- **Research Assistant in Geomorphological Analysis**

Location: Liverpool

Requirements: Experience in GIS and of fieldwork in relation to fluvial systems. Experience in image analysis, modelling capability and use of LIDAR or aerial photographs would be advantageous.

Job Description: The Department of Geography's University of Liverpool is looking for one person who should has interests in GIS and spatial analysis applied to geomorphological systems plus an interest in morphological analysis and in understanding the dynamics and processes of environmental change. This person will join the Sedimentary and Morphological Records of Environmental Change Research Group and will help in the implementation of new equipment and software in spatial data acquisition and analysis. The post is available for up to 2 years. Job Ref: R-566844. Closing Date: 30 November 2007. Professor Janet Hooke (Janet.Hooke@liverpool.ac.uk).

Details at: <http://liv.ac.uk/geography> ; http://www.liv.ac.uk/working/job_vacancies

- **Ph.D Research Studentship in Applied Geomorphology**

Location: Netherlands, Enschede. Department of Earth Systems Analysis, of the International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC).

Requirements: Recently obtained M.Sc. or diploma degree in Geography, Geomorphology, Environmental Sciences, Engineering Geology, Geology or in Earth Sciences related subjects. Experience in and aptitude for hazard and risk assessment and the use of GIS is indispensable. Field experience is highly recommended.

Job Description: A PhD studentship is available financed by the European Community within the Marie Curie. Research and Training Network '*Mountain Risks: from prediction to management and governance*'. The main aim of the research is to develop and test a methodology for quantitative multi-hazard risk assessment which combines the specific risks for different hydro-geomorphological processes (e.g. landslides - incl. debris flows, rock falls and shallow landslides -, and floods) in a single multi-hazard risk assessment within a GIS framework. The candidate will work in a team with other Ph.D researchers and M.Sc students and has the option to give courses within a university environment. The studentship duration is 30 months at a rate of € 2,576 per month, with an option to continue the research for another 12 months leading to a Ph.D defense. Official application deadline is 2007, December 30. Dr. Cees van Westen westen@itc.nl

- **Ph.D Research Studentship in Applied Geomorphology and Engineering Geology**

Location: University of Modena & Reggio Emilia, Modena, Italy. Three month CNRS – School and Observatory of Earth Sciences (University Louis Pasteur, Strasbourg) in France and at Eurogeotechnica S.A. in Spain.

Requirements: Recently obtained M.Sc. or diploma degree in any scientific discipline. Experience in and aptitude for geomorphological field survey, GIS, landslide monitoring systems, process-based numerical modelling.

Job Description: A PhD studentship is available financed by the European Commission within the Marie Curie Research and Training Network '*Mountain Risks: from prediction to management and governance*' to carry out research with the objective of increasing preparedness for landslide events in high risk areas. The objective will be achieved through the development and application of procedures for landslide prevention and mitigation based on the assessment of event-scenarios and on the implementation of early warning and mitigation measures. The studentship duration is 30 months at a rate of ca. € 3000 gross per month paid by Department of Earth Sciences of the University of Florence. The fees for registering for the Ph.D. degree will be covered by the project. Official application deadline is 2008, December 15. Prof. D. Castaldini castaldini.doriano@unimore.it.

- **Ph.D Research Studentship in Environmental Sciences**

Location: CNR - IRPI Padua, Padua, Italy and DISAT, University of Milan-Bicocca. Three months in the Technical University of Catalonia and in the University of Dortmund.

Requirements: Recently obtained M.Sc. or diploma degree in Geography, Geomorphology, Environmental Sciences, Engineering Geology, Urban Planning, Geology or in Earth Sciences related subjects. Experience and aptitude in hazard assessment and mapping, monitoring systems, risk management and use of GIS are indispensable. Field experience is highly recommended. The candidate will work in a team with other PhD researchers and MSc students; moreover he will deal with local administrators and population of the test sites. Finally he has the option to give courses within a university environment.

Job Description: A PhD studentship is available financed by the European Community within the Marie Curie Research and Training Network '*Mountain Risks: from prediction to management and governance*'. The main aim of the research is to develop and test a methodology for applying early warning systems to the emergency evacuation plan in the context of risk management. The studentship duration is 30 months at a rate of about 2400 € gross per month. The fees for registering the Ph.D. degree will be covered by the project. Official application deadline is 2007, December 15. Dr. A. Pasuto: alessandro.pasuto@irpi.cnr.it, Dr. M. De Amicis: mattia.deamicis@unimib.it.

- **The International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC)**

develops and transfers knowledge on Geo-Information Management for Sustainable Development. ITC undertakes education, research and advisory services in earth observation and spatial information collection, analysis and management. We provide tools and methods for the exploitation and conservation of natural resources, particularly in developing countries. ITC has six scientific and several support departments.

Current vacancies at ITC:

- [Assistant Professor - Land Administration](#), closing date: 4 Dec 2007
- [Assistant Professor - Economic geology](#), closing date: 22 Nov 2007
- [Assistant Professor - Geohazard and risk analysis](#), closing date: 22 Nov 2007
- [Assistant Professor - Environmental geophysics](#), closing date: 22 Nov 2007

We invite all members to forward items of news or general interest to fellow members to:
efgbrussels@gmail.com