



OneGeology Newsletter

OneGeology is a flagship project of the International Year of Planet Earth 2008

WELCOME!

Welcome to the 2nd edition of the OneGeology Newsletter. It has been an extremely busy year with numerous talks, meetings and discussions taking place in many different parts of the world. The first technical working group meeting was held in Utrecht, Netherlands on 30–31 May and the first operational management meeting was held in Ottawa on the 2nd and 3rd November. In addition to the continuing and growing support, progress is good, with the first user guides or 'cookbooks' due to be launched in January 2008 and schedules for the Portal are progressing well. The new-look website has also been launched www.onegeology.org containing more information and regular updates.

The OneGeology Secretariat would like to thank everyone for their valued and enthusiastic support and encouragement throughout 2007 and hope that our success continues through 2008. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

Launch of new website

The new OneGeology website was launched in November bringing it up to date and making information more easily accessible whilst still conveying the important messages about OneGeology.

The Mission Statement, Accord and MOU are prominent. Sections for the technical and managerial aspects are available.



The front page will be updated with quick-access 'what's new' links. There is a frequently asked questions (FAQ) page and many links to external websites also.

We hope you find the site useful, informative and easy to use and would welcome any feedback. Please take a look by visiting www.onegeology.org

New Countries

We would like to welcome a number of new countries who have recently signed up to the OneGeology Initiative. These include:





OneGeology Statistics

- Current participants: **88** organisations from **71** countries
- **11** supporting organisations
- **669** people requested to be on our mailing list
- Over **1000** visits per day to the OneGeology website

Operational Management Meeting

Twenty-three participants met on 2 and 3 November to progress the operational management aspects of OneGeology. The meeting was hosted by the Canadian Geological Survey in Ottawa, Canada. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss progress so far. Over 50 actions resulted and were shared between the delegates. This will mean lots of activity over the next few months — keeping the initiative progressing quickly! Please visit the website to see the actions and discussions http://www.onegeology.org/organisation/operational_management.html

1G Europe bid for funding

The wonderful spirit of cooperation fostered by OneGeology was demonstrated again when 21 European Geological Surveys worked together to submit a bid for €3.9M to the *eContentplus* programme of the European Commission. Thirty partners worked together to prepare the bid, which if successful will provide a fantastic boost for the initiative, helping to accelerate the 'hub', and PR work, and much more. Participants met in Brussels on 10 September to finalise details of the bid, which is currently being evaluated by the European Commission.

Results of the bid are expected in February 2008.

A US bid for funding

A bid has been submitted to develop a national Geoinformatics system (NGS) in the USA. This has strong links to OneGeology. Representatives from 7 universities, institutes and geological surveys in North America worked together and will jointly carry out the proposed activities if the bid is successful.

REGIONAL NEWS –

OneGeology in Italy

ERA Terra (ERA: Esposizione di Ricerca Avanzata — Advanced Research Exhibition; Terra: Earth) is a science exhibition which targets the general public. It takes place in Trieste, North of Italy, from 17 November to 16 December.

Sponsorship was received from the IYPE Italian Committee and Luca Demicheli, as Secretary General, has been invited to the opening ceremony.

The photographs, were taken during the several press interviews that were given. In one on them the poster of OneGeology is clearly visible. In addition, the 1G video was run continuously for the visitors.



Luca Demicheli
Geological Survey of Italy & Land Resources and Soil Protection Department.
APAT — Italian Agency for Environmental Protection and for Technical Services.



OneGeology in Argentina

Argentina has been actively working on different geological maps at 1M and 1:500 000 scale. An example of that currently available is shown opposite, displayed using Opensource software.

Following the release of the OneGeology Cookbooks in early 2008, data such as this will be able to be viewed through the OneGeology Portal.

*Gabriel Asato
Unidad Sensores Remotos y SIG
Servicio Geológico Minero Argentino
(SEGEMAR).*



OneGeology in Colombia

A short article has been published in Ingeominas outlining the progress of the Geological map of Colombia at the 1:1 000 000 scale. The article can be viewed at: <http://www.ingeominas.gov.co/content/view/659/358/>

*Jorge Gómez Tapias
Instituto de Investigacion e Informacion Geoscientifica
Minero-Ambiental y Nuclear, (INGEOMINAS)*

OneGeology in Armenia

In Armenia, the Armenian NSSP are converting existing geological maps into digital (raster) format.

*Hayk Hakobyan, PhD
Head International Department, Armenian NSSP.*

Technical Working Group Meeting

On the 30–31 May 2007 in Utrecht, Netherlands, TNO hosted the first official meeting of the Technical Working Group. Twenty-two participants from 17 countries attended the two day meeting. The prime objective of this workshop was to take forward the development of the prototype OneGeology Portal. The meeting was very successful and the continuing commitment of participants ensured that we have made excellent progress.

For further information and the action list and other issues please see the OneGeology website.

The next Technical Working Group meeting will be held on 27–29 February 2008 in Orleans, France.

Preparations for 33rd ICG in 2008

The whole OneGeology team are taking forward plans for the ICG in Oslo. OneGeology will have a symposium session, a booth and business meetings but most importantly the big launch of the OneGeology portal.

Geological Society of America Annual Conference, Denver, October 2007

OneGeology was presented to an audience of more than 300 people as part of a 'hot topic' debate on geology and Google Earth. There is enormous interest in the USA in OneGeology and a small OneGeology booth ran out of flyers on day 2 of the conference!

Come and join us!

The number of countries and Geological Surveys' signing up to become involved in OneGeology is increasing rapidly. We enthusiastically encourage all those interested but not yet registered to get in touch.

Further Information can be found on the OneGeology website, which is regularly updated or by contacting onegeology@bgs.ac.uk