



Issue 3 - January 2008

# OneGeology Newsletter

Special Edition

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## Introduction

Welcome to this special edition of the Newsletter focussing entirely on news and progress of the Technical Working Group. Progress and development of the Prototype Portal has been extremely good. Members of the Technical Working Group have been working hard to complete the first of the "Cookbooks". OneGeology Cookbooks are guides to help people to deliver their digital geological maps through the world wide web. Cookbook 1, 'how to serve an OneGeology Level 1 conformant WMS using Mapserver', is now available from the website and explains how to set up a Web Map Service (WMS). Also, to complement the Cookbook, there is a new web discussion board and a helpdesk email address to allow easier communication and sharing of information, advice and tips between participants.

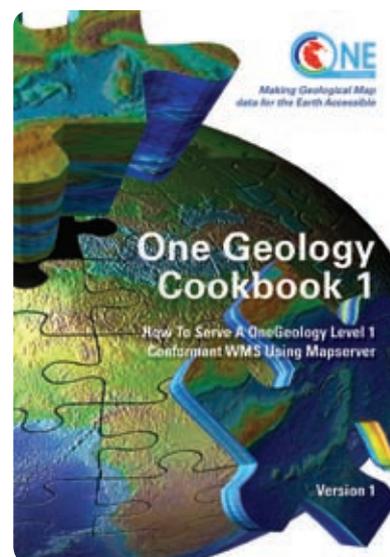
then take place as part of the next Technical Working Group meeting, to be held in Orleans, France on 27–29 February 2008.

We would like to encourage all OneGeology participants to contribute a OneGeology Level 1 WMS. Please use Cookbook 1 for guidance and register your initial data with

## Release of Cookbook 1

Cookbook 1, which explains how to setup a WMS (web map service) has now been released and is available at [\[www.onegeology.org/technical\\_progress/technical.html#cookbooks\]](http://www.onegeology.org/technical_progress/technical.html#cookbooks).

Cookbook 1 is the first of at least three to be published and this draft version will be available for trial and editing over the next three months. A review and improvements to it will



the prototype portal. This cookbook is very much work in continual progress and we welcome your feedback. We are publishing this draft cookbook both as .PDF file and as a Word 2003 file. This is so that you can trial the document and send changes in wording or method back to us for continual improvement (using the Word track changes facility). Wording changes may also help with future translations.





## New

### Discussion board and helpdesk email

A Technical Working Group cookbook user forum discussion page has been set up at [http://www.onegeology.org/technical\\_progress/forum/index.cfm](http://www.onegeology.org/technical_progress/forum/index.cfm) so that members can discuss and share technical aspects of OneGeology in particular the WMS Level 1 cookbook. This facility is password accessible for those who wish to place queries or help give answers to others.

Additionally, a 'helpdesk' email has been set up for technical queries. The email address is [onegeologyhelp@bgs.ac.uk](mailto:onegeologyhelp@bgs.ac.uk)

Please email this address if you would like to apply for a user-name and password for the user forum discussion pages or for registration of WMS services on the Portal.

actions, WMS cookbook issues; prototype portal issues; and preparations for Level 2 cookbooks, documentation and software. The final day on the 29th will be devoted to survey representatives wishing to come with WMS setup issues and will consist of a two hour demonstration of using the WMS Cookbook followed by an afternoon 'surgery' session for anyone to bring their data and queries and to try and help them get going with a OneGeology Level 1 WMS.

Further details of the meeting venue, travel and accommodation can be viewed at [http://www.onegeology.org/technical\\_progress/technical\\_wg.html](http://www.onegeology.org/technical_progress/technical_wg.html)

Please let us know if you would like to attend this meeting by emailing the OneGeology secretariat or [d.verhelst@brgm.fr](mailto:d.verhelst@brgm.fr) as soon as possible.

### Release of prototype portal

The first prototype OneGeology Portal is now available for anyone to view and for OneGeology participants to register their WMS web services. The prototype portal now includes some example geological maps as WMS and provides a vision of what OneGeology is aiming for in the coming months.

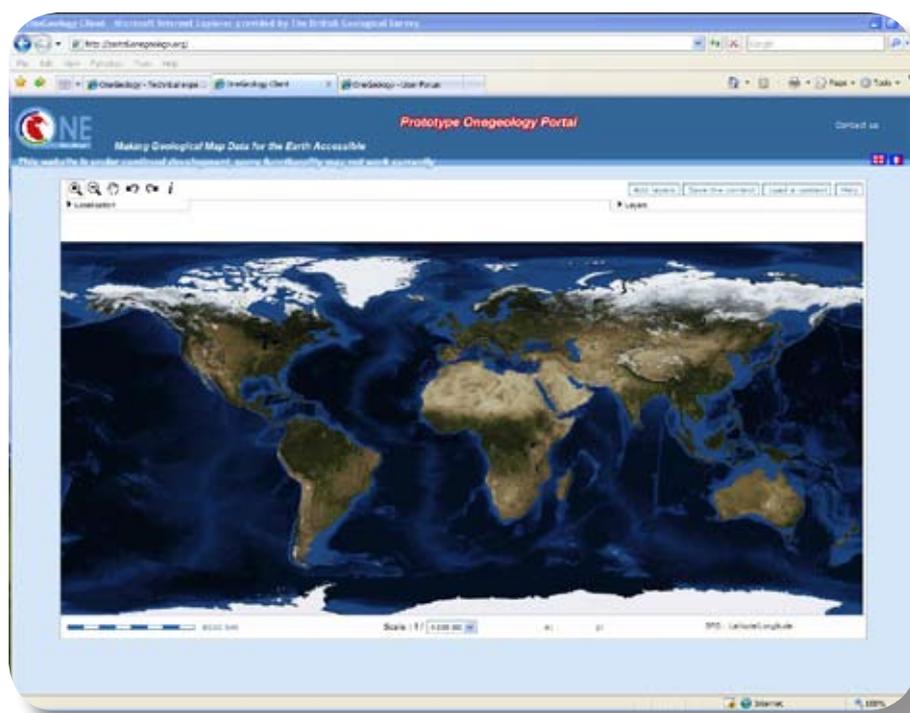
This portal website is under continual development and some functionality may not work currently. A fully operational edition will be launched at the International Geological Congress (IGC) in Oslo, in August 2008.

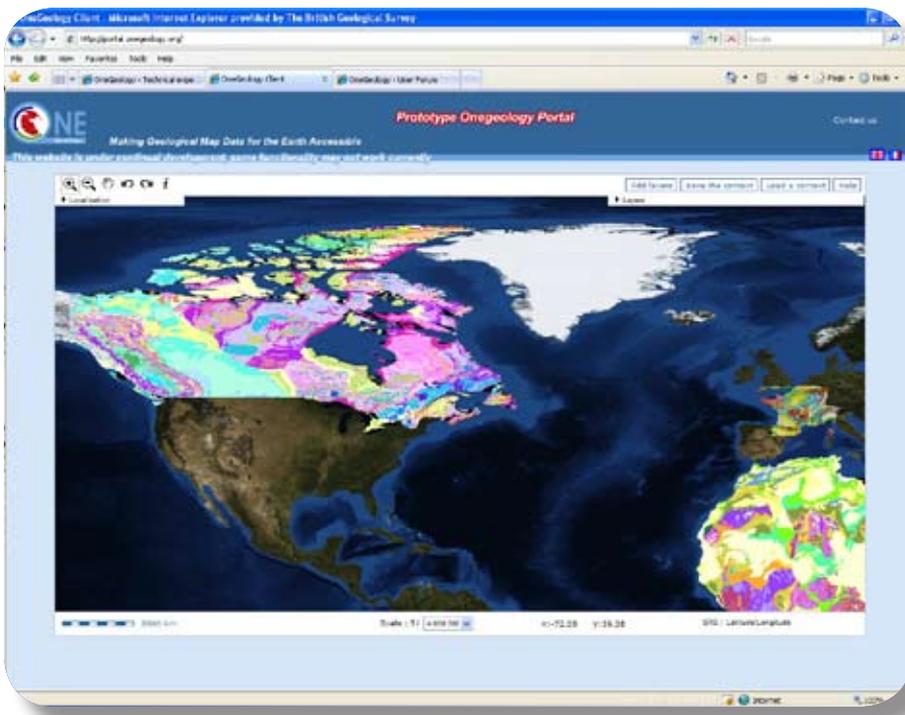
Staff from the BGS, BRGM, TNO and others have contributed to the construction of cookbook. Some of you have offered to translate such cookbooks into local languages. Whilst we would not discourage anyone from doing translations, we suggest that the next version of this cookbook, which will emerge from the Technical Working group meeting in February is likely to be the one stable enough to be worth the effort of translating.

### Next technical working group meeting

The next meeting of the OneGeology Technical Working Group will be held on 27–29 February 2008 at BRGM, Orleans, France.

The agenda for the 27th and 28th will cover: outstanding





Please follow the link <http://www.onegeology.org/portal/introduction.html> to access the portal website.

If participants of OneGeology would like to apply for a user name and password, which they require to offer a WMS service for registration, please contact [onegeologyhelp@bgs.ac.uk](mailto:onegeologyhelp@bgs.ac.uk)

(You do not need a password to just use the portal client with its registered and approved OneGeology WMS services listed there)

## Buddy system

To coincide with the release of Cookbook 1, we would like to find out who would need assistance to serve their data to the portal as a WMS and also who is able to provide that assistance.

We would be very grateful if you would visit the website using the link [[http://www.onegeology.org/technical\\_progress/buddy\\_system.cfm](http://www.onegeology.org/technical_progress/buddy_system.cfm)] and complete the "buddy assistance form" as soon as possible.

## Further cookbooks in the pipeline

Following the February Technical Working Group meeting we will continue to produce cookbooks to support Level 2 participation in OneGeology. This will explain how to serve data using a Web Feature Service (WFS) based

on the GeoSciML version 2. Between now and the August launch of the OneGeology Portal and GeoSciML version two, ten OneGeology participants in the GeoSciML initiative will be developing the technology and documentation (at least 2 more cookbooks) necessary for developing a OneGeology Level 2 WFS.

## User ids/passwords

To be able to use the discussion board and register your WMS services with the OneGeology Portal Registry you will require a login username and password. If you would like to use this facility and haven't

yet been issued with a password, please email us at [onegeologyhelp@bgs.ac.uk](mailto:onegeologyhelp@bgs.ac.uk)

## SUMMARY

- Cookbook 1 available [[www.onegeology.org/technical\\_progress/technical.html#cookbooks](http://www.onegeology.org/technical_progress/technical.html#cookbooks)]
- Discussion board available [[http://www.onegeology.org/technical\\_progress/forum/index.cfm](http://www.onegeology.org/technical_progress/forum/index.cfm)] (password required)
- Prototype portal viewable [<http://www.onegeology.org/portal/introduction.html>] (password required only to register a wms service)
- Helpdesk email: [onegeologyhelp@bgs.ac.uk](mailto:onegeologyhelp@bgs.ac.uk)
- Buddy system – complete the online form to contribute or request assistance [[http://www.onegeology.org/technical\\_progress/buddy\\_system.cfm](http://www.onegeology.org/technical_progress/buddy_system.cfm)]

Newsletter produced by K Booth of OneGeology secretariat and T Duffy, chair of the OneGeology technical working group.