International Union of Geological Sciences  
Executive Committee  

Attention: IUGS Secretariat  

Dear Colleagues  


In reply to the request of 21 October 2014 from the IUGS Secretariat, I attach herewith the 2014 annual report of activities for the Task Group on Global Geoscience Professionalism, together with its work plan and budget for 2015. We apologise for the late delivery of this report, which was unavoidable given personal and professional commitments of the Officers of the Task Group and the difficulty of co-ordinating the reporting process until now.  

As you know this Task Group was formed in August 2012; 2014 was its second full year of operation. We have received $5000 for 2014 activities. This has primarily been spent on continuing to ramp up the profile of the Task Group and to expand engagement across the international geoscience community. Our website is www.tg-ggp.org. A summary statement of expenditure and income in 2014 is included in our report.  

For 2015, we request IUGS financial support for the year coming in the amount of $7000 to cover the non-voluntary contributions to our 2015 work plan and allow us to tackle some of the work items which were planned for 2014 but could not be completed due to lack of funds. Our forward plan and budget is summarised in our report attached.  

We trust this meets your requirements. Should you have any questions or require any additional information please do not hesitate to get in touch. We will be asking Oliver Bonham, TG-GGP Secretary, who is based in British Columbia, to present our report in person at the next Executive Committee meeting in Vancouver, in January 2015.  

Yours sincerely,  

Eur Geol Ruth Allington, C.Geol, C.Eng  
Task Group Chair

2014 ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES
Throughout 2014, the Task Group on Global Geoscience Professionalism (TGGGP) has continued work targeted directly at the aims as set out in its Terms of Reference.

Progress summary
Activities during 2014 comprised:

- Several Task Group Committee meetings via GoToMeeting, including one face-to-face meeting in October in Vancouver, Canada during the GSA annual meeting involving part of the Committee, as well as email communication throughout the year.
- Continuing improvements and adjustments to our Task Group website at www.tg-ggp.org.
- Design and printing of a tri-fold colour pamphlet on the Task Group. This pamphlet was available at separate booths hosted by TG-GGP participating professional geoscience organizations, Geoscientists Canada and American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG), at the GSA conference in Vancouver, in October. Copies, both print and electronic, have been forwarding to all participating organizations for their ongoing use. A copy of the pamphlet is attached to this report. It is intended to have French and Spanish translations of the pamphlet prepared shortly. Copies in all three languages will continue to be circulated. Further other language translations are also planned as appropriate.
- Talks and presentations were given by the following individuals at the following events around the world, during the year concerning professional affairs in geoscience and relating directly to the work of the Task Group:
  - September 13 – 16 American Institute of Professional Geologists and Arizona Hydrological Society National Conference in Prescott, Arizona USA, "Water and Rocks: the Foundations of Life". Barbara Murphy served on the organizing committee for the conference and helped to organise two sessions that included presentations related to TG-GGP - (1) Young Professionals Session and (2) STEM Careers - Feeding the Pipeline. 250 copies of the TG-GGP poster were available at the AIPG booth for attendees to take and learn more about the TG-GGP. There were about 350 attendees at the conference from throughout the US and several international guests - consultants; federal, state and local government professionals; university/college/high school faculty; representatives from other professional organizations; government administrators; exhibitors for drilling companies, analytical labs, and various testing equipment, etc.
  - September 15 - 19 International Association for Engineering Geology and the Environment (IAEG) Congress, Turin, Italy. Joint paper by Ruth Allington and Isabel Fernandez accepted and published in the proceedings:
  - October 25: Ruth Allington presented 'Is poor communications between academic and applied geoscience contributing to an ill-prepared workforce? Our knowledge gaps - What are they? What are the advantages of narrowing them? How can we bridge them? and Oliver Bonham et al presented Self-regulation of geoscience practice in Canada and the recent development of a competency profile describing the array of abilities for safe, effective and ethical practice in a session sponsored by AGI (American Geoscience Institute) and ASBOG (association of State Boards of Geology) at the GSA Annual Conference in Vancouver.
o November 21, Ruth Allington presented: “Best Practice” ethics and the role of skilled geoscientists” as keynote speaker (invited in her capacity as Chair of TG-GGP) at the MIN WIN-WIN conference described in more detail below.

- Participating professional geoscience organization The European Federation of Geologists (EFG), together with the Pan-European Reserves & Resources Reporting Committee (PERC), co-organised the international conference “MIN WIN-WIN: Establishing Europe-wide minerals reporting standards – the key to reducing risk and increasing opportunity” from 20-21 November 2014, in Brussels, Belgium. This was a well-attended event, at which the role and work of TG-GGP featured prominently. A copy of the post-conference press release is attached and forms part of this report.

- Professional matters are prominently featured in the development of the programme for the 36th International Geological Congress in Cape Town, South Africa in 2016 (“IGC2016”), and TG-GGP anticipates facilitating as many opportunities for these to be debated and presented alongside scientific presentations as possible. In this regard, Ruth Allington (Chair) and Oliver Bonham (Secretary) were invited by the Scientific Program Committee, and have agreed, to serve as “Theme Champions” for the topic “Geoscience for Society” for the upcoming congress. Representatives of GSSA/SACNASP on the TG-GGP are also heavily involved in the planning for this event and keeping other members of TG-GGP informed.

- Representing Geoscientists Canada, Oliver Bonham (Secretary of TG-GGP) is a member of the new Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for the IUGS-sponsored Resources for Future Generations conference planned for Vancouver, BC, in June of 2018 (“RFG2018”). Through his engagement, it is hoped that professionalism can be an underpinning theme at this inaugural event in IUGS’s new inter IGC conference series.

- In October at GSA, TG-GGP was invited to present at the unveiling of the AGI’s new draft model Code of Ethics that that organizing is proposing be adopted as the template for future Codes of Ethics for use by AGI’s member geoscience associations. AGI’s draft code is now out for consultation with its member associations; a final text is expected to be brought forward for approval by AGI during 2015.

- Proposals by EFG participate in four H2020 European Union funded projects as partner have recently been accepted and grant agreements are being finalised. EFG’s role in these projects, which all concern aspects of policy in Europe for which geoscience is relevant and the knowledge base underlying it, lies in coordination of inter-disciplinary project teams, ensuring that outputs properly recognise the roles and responsibilities of professional geoscientists and that geoscience research outputs from the projects are widely and properly disseminated. While TG-GGP is not a direct participant in these projects, individuals and professional geoscience organisations active within TG-GGP (within and outside Europe) do have roles in them and the TG-GGP network will therefore both contribute to this work and be strengthened through participation.

**Task Group membership and administration**

The Task Group is co-ordinated by professional geoscience organisations with similar aims and objectives. In addition, as noted in the summary above, we work with a range of international organisations with interests relevant to the promotion, regulation and support of professionalism in geoscience as collaborating organisations.

To this end, TG-GGP is in collaboration with the IAPG -International Association for Promoting Geoethics (an IUGS and AGI affiliate) - for a session IAPG is planning on Geoethics at the EGU General Assembly (12-17 April) 2015, in Vienna, Austria. The conveners will be seeking 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.

**Professional Geoscience Organisations**

The Task Group’s work is co-ordinated and led by an executive committee comprising the representatives of the professional geoscience organisations listed below. During the year attempts were made to engage an organization in Brazil to join TG-GGP but this has yet to achieve a satisfactory outcome (colleagues in CRIRSCO are engaged with them in connection with the possible development of further CRIRSCO compliant mineral reporting codes and standards and it is hoped that TG-GGP will be successful in bringing them into the network in 2015). In 2015, it is hoped that we can encourage further national participation in the Task Group to further increase geographical coverage. There is also some interest from professional geoscience organisations which are already represented as part of an organisation with wide geographical coverage (e.g. EFG). The Executive Committee encourages such national participation and is currently in the process of considering membership categories to avoid the Executive Committee growing too large, whilst not excluding national organisations with an interest in professional affairs internationally.

The current list of participating organizations is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional Geoscience Organisation</th>
<th>Geographic area</th>
<th>Representatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European Federation of Geologists, EFG</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Ruth Allington (EFG Past President) Isabel Fernandez (EFG Executive Director)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geoscientists Canada</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Oliver Bonham (Geoscientists Canada CEO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Institute of Professional Geologists, AIPG</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Barbara Murphy (AIPG Past President)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Institute of Geoscientists, AIG</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Wayne Spilsbury (AIG President)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colegio de Geólogos de Bolivia</td>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>Osvaldo Arce (CGB President)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geological Society of South Africa, GSSA</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Ed Swindell (GSSA Vice President of Professional Affairs) and Craig Smith (GSSA Executive Manager)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South African Council for the Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP)</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Dr R.W. Becker(SACNASP Executive Director)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Officers have been appointed from this group (see below) to drive the day to day affairs of the Task Group. They will continue to serve into 2015. Next year procedures will be introduced that will allow for succession and renewal to take place in Executive Committee membership. It is up to participating professional geoscience organisations to follow their own internal procedures for nominating representatives to serve on the TG Executive Committee (up to 2 per organisation).
### 2014-15 Executive Committee - Officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Vice Chair</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Eur Geol **Ruth Allington**, C.Geol, C.Eng, (UK)  
Past President (2009-2013) European Federation of Geologists  
Joint Senior Partner  
GWP Consultants LLP  
Upton House, Market Street  
Charlbury, Oxfordshire, OX7 3PJ  
United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 (0)1608 810374  
Fax: +44 (0)1608 810093  
Email: RuthA@gwp.uk.com | **Barbara H. Murphy**, RG, CPG (USA)  
2012 President American Institute of Professional Geologists  
Senior Geologist  
Clear Creek Associates  
6155 E. Indian School Road #200  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
USA  
Tel: +1-480-659-7131  
Fax: +1480-659-7143  
Email: BMurphy@clearcreekassociates.com |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Secretary</th>
<th>Treasurer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Oliver Bonham**, P.Geo (Canada)  
Chief Executive Officer/Chef de la direction  
Geoscientists Canada/Géoscientifiques Canada  
200- 4010 Regent St, Burnaby, B.C., Canada  
V5C 6N2  
Tel: 604-412-4888  
Fax: 604-889-3529  
Email: obonham@ccpg.ca | **Dr. Isabel M Fernández Fuentes**, EurGeol, (Belgium)  
Executive Director  
European Federation of Geologists  
Rue Jenner 13, 1000 Brussels, Belgium  
c/o Belgium Geological Survey  
Tel: +32(0)2 7887636  
Fax: +32(0)2 6477359  
Email: isabel.fernandez@eurogeologists.be |

### Collaborating organisations

The TG aims to create a network, not only with very wide geographical coverage but also bringing together organisations with interests relevant to the promotion, regulation and support of professionalism in geoscience. We are referring to these organisations as “collaborating organisations”. The current list of organisations with which we are already in contact or to which approaches are planned is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collaborating organisation</th>
<th>Geographic area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African Association of Women in Geosciences, AAWG (<a href="http://www.aawg.org">www.aawg.org</a>)</td>
<td>Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards, CRIRSCO (<a href="http://www.crirsco.com">www.crirsco.com</a>)</td>
<td>International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Earth Scientists Network, YES Network (<a href="http://www.networkyes.org">www.networkyes.org</a>)</td>
<td>International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Association for Promoting Geoethics, IAPG (<a href="http://www.iapg-geoethics.org">www.iapg-geoethics.org</a>).</td>
<td>International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Association for Geoethics (IAGETH) (<a href="http://www.icog.es/iageth/">http://www.icog.es/iageth/</a>)</td>
<td>International</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Task Group aims to increase this list of collaborating organisations in 2015 and also to build on initial contacts listed above to work on projects and initiatives – especially in relation to continuing to expand our website to provide a range of accessible and up to date information of interest to a wide range of geoscientists internationally as they anticipate a professional career in geoscience or to support their established geoscience careers (whether in academia, government, or industry).
2014 Funding and Expenditure
Funding in the total amount of $5000 for 2014 was received from IUGS in early 2014 and is gratefully acknowledged. To date of this report (10 December) during the past year, this budget was spent on the activities of the Task Group - see summary statement below. Most of the expenditure was for designing printing our pamphlet and for travel to enable the chair to attend IUGS and Task Group related meetings and make presentations about the Task Group’s activities at conferences where travel funding could not be secured from other sources. Note that the actual costs incurred for attending conferences and meetings was considerably more than that claimed against the grant received from IUGS.

IUGS TG-GGP (2014 statement of financial position)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Paid in €</th>
<th>Paid in $</th>
<th>Balance carried forward from 2013</th>
<th>Running balance (€)</th>
<th>Running balance ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/02/2014</td>
<td>-€ 357.12</td>
<td>Gotomeeting annual subscription (visa)</td>
<td>-€ 374.24</td>
<td>-$508.97</td>
<td>-€ 17.12</td>
<td>-€ 23.28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/02/2014</td>
<td>-€ 326.10</td>
<td>Translation fees Geoscientists Canada</td>
<td>-€ 700.34</td>
<td>-$952.46</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various dates</td>
<td>-€ 900.00</td>
<td>EFG services to TG GGP including leaflet design, and various administration</td>
<td>-€ 1,600.34</td>
<td>-$2,176.46</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>various dates</td>
<td>-€ 220.59</td>
<td>Admin expenses, Geoscientists Canada incl leaflet printing and web management costs</td>
<td>-€ 1,820.93</td>
<td>-$2,476.46</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/04/2014</td>
<td>€ 3,563.59</td>
<td>IUGS FOR TG GGP 2014</td>
<td>€ 1,742.66</td>
<td>$2,370.02</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2014</td>
<td>-€ 66.18</td>
<td>Abstract submission fees (x2), GSA Vancouver (Sept14)</td>
<td>-€ 1,676.49</td>
<td>-$2,280.02</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims settled Dec14</td>
<td>-€ 1,811.60</td>
<td>Contribution to travel, accommodation and conference registrations for attendances and presentation at 4 conferences in the year: TG-GGP at IAEG (Turin - Sept14), AIPG (Arizona, Sept14), GSA (Vancouver - Oct14 (2 delegates)) and MIN WIN-WIN (Brussels - Nov14) NB the balance of actual costs covered by the individuals who attended and their employers</td>
<td>-€ 135.11</td>
<td>-$183.76</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Balance at end 2014 -€ 135.11 -$183.76

Total expenditure in 2014 -€ 3,681.58 -$5,006.96

2015 WORK PLAN
The principal focus of activities during 2015 will be:

1. To continue to raise awareness of the existence of the new Task Group right across the geoscience community globally and to multiple geoscience communities;
2. To increase direct involvement in the Task Group by professional organisations from additional countries and collaborating organisations;
3. To create a series of working groups focused on specific practice areas in professional affairs, including professional ethics in practice, mineral resources reporting, and human resources capacity; and
4. Support the 36th INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS in South Africa with a workshop or session proposal (or both) on Global Geoscience Professionalism. Plans are to organise the 5th International Professional Geology Conference (held every four years, the last in 2012 in Vancouver) as part of (or at the same time as) 36IPGC in South Africa.
6. Ensure TG-GGP engagement in session on Professionalism and Geoethics at prominent international geoscience events in 2014. In particular session are already planned at both EGU General Assembly in Vienna in April and AGU’s (American Geophysics Union’s) Joint Assembly with the Geological Association of Canada (GAC) and the Mineralogical Association of Canada (MAC) in Montreal, Canada in May.
7. Work will continue to identify, approach and engage additional countries in the Task Group. As well as additional countries, every effort will be made to search out and embrace already existing focus groups within the global geosciences community that are directing attention to different professional and ethical issues impacting both our science and its practitioners, worldwide.

By way of raising continued awareness about the Task Group and its objectives, the committee will continue to seek out opportunities to sponsor/co-sponsor sessions on professional affairs at various Earth Science/Geoscience conferences during 2015.

An early planning group is to be formed to commence work on a special session on professionalism in geoscience as part of the IGC2016 in Cape Town, South Africa. To date, the following conferences during 2015 have been identified as suitable and contact approaches have been initiated or are under consideration:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EGU General Assembly 2015 (Vienna - Austria)</td>
<td>Vienna, Austria</td>
<td>12-17 April 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGU Joint Assembly with GAC/MAC in May.</td>
<td>Montreal, Canada</td>
<td>3-7 May 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The members of the Task Group share slides from talks and presentations and maintains a growing resource of slides that presenters can access so that similar key information and messaging about the TGGGP initiative may be brought in parallel to audiences across all events, internationally, and to many geoscience communities or disciplines. In addition the Task Group will encourage the presentation of talks from those among its ranks and others that address various aspects of professionalism in geoscience.

**2015 Budget**

As set out in the proposal, the Task Group requires annual financial support in the order of $7000 per annum to fulfil its activities. The following is an outline of the activities to which funding is expected to be directed during 2015 if approved by IUGS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Indicative expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website content management/content improvement</td>
<td>$1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webhosting costs</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online meeting - software licence</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design and printing of multilingual trifold colour pamphlet</td>
<td>$1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel subsidies for 4 individuals to attend and present on TGGGP at 1 conference each ($500 per conference)</td>
<td>$2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research work to improve quality and relevance of website content</td>
<td>$1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research work to bring together data on National Regulation and employment requirements in all the countries represented by the participating professional geoscience organisations and more widely</td>
<td>$1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$7000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respectfully submitted
Eur Geol Ruth Allington, C.Geol, C.Eng
Task Group Chair
Task Group on Global Geoscience Professionalism
2014 Annual Report of Activities, and 2015 Work Plan and Budget

Attachments to the report

TG-GGP pamphlet produced and distributed at the GSA Congress 2014 in Vancouver, BC

MIN WIN-WIN conference press release
Mission

The Task Group on Global Geoscience Professionalism (TGGGP) is a task group of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), one of the largest and most active non-governmental scientific organisations in the world. The TGGGP was formed in 2012 by the group of professional geoscience organisations shown as members in this leaflet.

Through its website and via the networking and dissemination activities of its members, TGGGP aims to promote professionalism in geoscience to the global geoscience community including:

- Applied geoscience professionals
- Learned geoscience societies
- Geoscience researchers
- Geoscience educators
- Recent geoscience graduates
- Geoscience students and those considering geoscience studies
- Academic institutions, and
- Members of the public interested in Earth Science or concerned about the activities of geoscientists and the organisations they work for.

TGGGP incorporates the IUGS Workforce Task Group, in collaboration with AGI.

More information: http://tg-ggp.org

Members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geographical Area</th>
<th>Professional Geoscience Organisation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>European Federation of Geologists (EFG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.eurogeologists.eu">www.eurogeologists.eu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Geoscientists Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.geoscientistscanada.ca">www.geoscientistscanada.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.aipg.org">www.aipg.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Australian Institute of Geoscientists (AIG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>aig.org.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>Colegio de Geólogos de Bolivia (CGB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.cgb.org.bo">www.cgb.org.bo</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Geological Society of South Africa (GSSA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.gssa.org.za">www.gssa.org.za</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>South African Council for the Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.sacnasp.org.za">www.sacnasp.org.za</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Associated Organisations:

- American Geosciences Institute  
  www.agiweb.org
- YES Network  
  www.networkyes.org
- CRIRSCO  
  www.crirasco.com
- International Association for Promoting Geoethics (IAPG)  
  www.iapg.geoethics.org
- International Association for Geoethics (IAGETH)  
  www.icog.es/iageth
- African Association of Women in Geosciences (AAWG)  
  www.aawg.org
Vision

Professional geoscientists, whether they are active in academia, industry or government directly or indirectly, serve the public by providing research findings, expert services and opinions on which others rely for key decision-making.

The term "professional" is often used to refer only to geoscientists who work in industry or applied fields generally and not to geoscientists who are teachers, academics and research scientists.

TGGGP is based on a wider interpretation of professional geoscientists including:

› Applied/industry practitioners
› Educators and researchers

TGGGP aims to help the geoscience community to embrace professionalism and work towards breaking down barriers within geoscience seeking to address the following key questions:

› Without understanding the skills and expertise needed by “industry”, how can educators prepare students for the workplace?
› Without understanding societal needs, how can researchers design research which is truly relevant to those needs?
› Without access to high quality graduates and excellent underpinning research, how can geoscientists in “industry” deliver their expertise effectively?

Our activities

TGGGP aims to act as a forum for discussion of and collaboration on matters of professionalism in geoscience at a local, national, and international level.

It does this through its website and active participation of its members as speakers on and champions for professionalism to facilitate:

› Rapid conversion of research findings to applied geoscience technologies and methodologies;
› Greater relevancy in applied geoscience at the university level;
› Increased education in professional skills at the university level;
› Research project design and fund allocation through greater appreciation of societal needs;
› Clear pathways and assessment criteria for geoscience graduates seeking to attain professional qualifications; and
› A greater understanding of geoscience professionalism by employers, governments, NGOs, academic institutions, and the general public.

Our services

For individual geoscientists

To support individual geoscientists at all stages of their careers, and before they embark on a career in geoscience, whether academic or applied, to access information about:

› Career paths in geoscience;
› Professional standards and professional qualifications;
› Expected standards of professional conduct, ethical codes;
› Available/accredited educational pathways suitable as a basis for a career in geoscience; and
› Requirements and support for working in particular countries or a sectors (qualifications, licensure, professional titles).

For the global geoscience community

TGGGP is working to include more professional geoscience organisations representing countries/continents not yet covered in the TGGGP network in order to:

› Share experience and define best practice, and
› Work towards mutual recognition of standards and titles to facilitate mobility of geoscientists globally.

TGGGP is also engaging with organisations with similar aims in specific areas of professional practice or practice sectors to:

› Act as a focus for dialogue and shared experience within and beyond IUGS to raise the profile of professionalism in geoscience, and
› Work towards wider engagement across the geoscience community.
PRESS RELEASE MIN WIN-WIN CONFERENCE

The European Federation of Geologists (EFG) and the Pan-European Reserves & Resources Reporting Committee (PERC) were glad to co-organise the international 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.

The continuing rise in global population and living standards, as well as technological innovation, is leading to increasing requirements for a broader range of metals, minerals and other raw materials. EU manufacturing and improved positioning of EU enterprises in the global value chain is currently dependent, to great extent, on imports of mineral raw materials from outside Europe. This dependency is associated with the contraction of primary mining activity in the EU over several decades, driven by lower production costs outside the EU and pressures to protect the natural environment within the EU. Increasingly, EU supply chains for raw materials are adversely affected by growing demand pressure from emerging economies and by an increasing number of restrictive national policy measures that impact the normal operation of supply chains. This dependence on supplies that are largely beyond EU control threatens the security of raw materials supply, but also highlights opportunities for expanding primary extraction and recycling within the EU, in line with sustainable development objectives. In this context, the European Commission launched the European Raw Materials Initiative (RMI) in 2008 in order to stabilize long-term commodity prices by removing market distortions, to provide alternative approaches to meet demand, and to support the transition to a low carbon and resource-efficient economy.

In this context, the conference’s main aim was to promote the adoption of a common reporting standard in the EU to be used both by the industry and by governments and European Community entities. Such an approach is intended to contribute to the convergence of terminology and the comparability/compatibility of data, thus facilitating the creation of a solid European Knowledge Database on mineral resources and to the successful delivery of the Raw Materials Initiative.

Providing the audience with a unique opportunity to learn about and discuss concrete steps regarding mineral reporting in a cross-disciplinary environment, the conference was attended by more than 100 participants including EU policy makers, national government officials, academics, minerals company executives, consultants, finance and industry experts. The organisers were particularly pleased with the presence of several keynote speakers from the European Institutions, the World Bank and leading geosciences organisations.

During the first session that familiarised the audience with the framework of current EU policy on Raw Materials, Reinhard Bütikofer, Member of the European Parliament and representative of the German Green party (die Grünen) underlined the crucial necessity for Europe to develop a common Raw Materials Policy, required, as he explained, by a decisive shift that has taken place over the past years in the balance of global economic power linked with the emergence of several new players such as China, Brazil and India. In the context of recent changes in global consumption and life style patterns that are reflected in intensification of international competition, a reliable supply of raw materials is becoming critical for Europe. Mr. Bütikofer therefore called upon the strengthening of cooperation at European level in the field of trade, domestic mining and technology efficiency; the innovation sector being particularly significant for the success of this approach. Bütikofer furthermore emphasized that Europe must be more ambitious in this field and that the input of geoscientists towards the European Parliament is most welcome in this matter.

In the second session that presented different information sources used for reporting across the EU, major industry representatives highlighted the importance of making quality data available for reporting purposes and clarified why the PERC standard - as the European member of the CRIRSCO reporting standards family - is so useful for the development of a common language for reporting in Europe.

On Friday morning the third session, dedicated to Dan Germiquet, former senior geologist of IMERYS and major representative of PERC deceased in 2013 in the Paris train crash, emphasized the existing discrepancies between national economic policies and governance structures in Europe and the opportunities offered by a common EU minerals knowledge database.
The main conclusions that can be drawn from the following sessions were summarised by Deborah McCombe during a panel discussion at the end of day two. Deborah McCombe, President, CEO and principal geologist at Roscoe Postle Associates Inc., and past Chair of CRIRSCO, highlighted in her concluding words the decisive role played by professional geoscientists. The main function of geoscientists as Competent Persons - with the relevant experience to give accurate estimates of resources and reserves, and the authority to approve market-sensitive reports - is thus to be useful, not only to investors and regulators, but principally to society. McCombe also stressed the need to avoid a language of conflict in discussions with regulators and investors, and to improve communication in general, and she emphasised that listening to the concerns of other interested parties is key to this role. She furthermore underlined the importance of disciplinary procedures: disqualifying or sanctioning any professionals who fail to meet the high standards required. She described the Canadian system in which the development of peer review processes within the geoscientists’ community allowed improvement in the quality of reporting.

The organisers and keynote speakers concurred that the broad recognition of the European PERC standard that is based on the international template provided by CRIRSCO, together with the improvement of communication between investors, regulators and industry, and the systematic involvement of Competent Persons for reporting, are crucial for winning the confidence of public institutions and society. Only a pan-European approach fully compatible with the international reporting template (CRIRSCO) and the United Nations Classification Framework (UNFC) may help European states in facing the challenges arising from globalisation and increasing raw materials scarcity. In this context, the European Federation of Geologists can play a major role by providing accreditation for qualified persons within its 24 member states.

About EFG: The European Federation of Geologists is a non-governmental organisation that was established in 1981 and includes today 24 national association members. EFG is a professional organisation whose main aims are to contribute to a safer and more sustainable use of the natural environment, to protect and inform the public and to promote a more responsible exploitation of natural resources. EFG’s members are National Associations whose principal objectives are based in similar aims. The guidelines to achieve these aims are the promotion of excellence in the application of geology and the creation of public awareness of the importance of geoscience for the society.

www.eurogeologists.eu

About PERC: PERC is the organisation responsible for setting standards for public reporting of exploration results, mineral resources, and mineral reserves by companies listed on markets in Europe. It is a member of CRIRSCO, the Committee For Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards, and the PERC Reporting Standard is fully aligned with the CRIRSCO Reporting Template.

www.PERCstandard.eu

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