



OneGeology Newsletter

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Welcome to the 10th issue of the OneGeology Newsletter. The first 5 months of the year have been extremely busy for OneGeology. We are pleased to confirm that the ESRI Grant offer is now available to participating countries. We report the latest news from the Steering Group who held their annual meeting in Wellington, New Zealand. We review the successful YES Network roundtable discussions at the EGU, Vienna. There is a special feature on OneGeology's associations with the Geoparks Network, as well as the regular updates on events within the global regions.



The OneGeology Steering Group, GNS Science, Wellington, New Zealand, April 2010. (front row: Katy Booth (OneGeology secretariat), Dr Suzette Kimball (USGS, Northern America representative), Dr H Kato (Geological Survey of Japan, Asia representative), Maria-Glicia da Nóbrega Coutinho (representing Dr A Dantas (CPRM, South and Central America representative), Dr Alex Malahoff (GNS Science, Oceania representative). Back row: Philippe Rossi (CGMW), Mark Rattenbury (GNS), Sarah Gaines (UNESCO), Ian Jackson (BGS, OneGeology Executive Secretary), John Broome (NRC Canada, OneGeology Operational Management Group), Francois Robida (BRGM, OneGeology) and Dr Marko Komac (Geological Survey of Slovenia, Europe representative).

Latest news from the OneGeology Steering Group Meeting


The third meeting of the OneGeology Steering Group took place on 15–16 April 2010 at GNS Science, Avalon, Wellington, New Zealand bringing together the regional representatives for geological surveys around the world. The agenda covered progress in each of the six global regions, detailed discussions on the incorporation of OneGeology, the grant offer that is now available from ESRI, linkages with other organisations such as Geoparks, the YES Network and GEO/GEOSS, as well as looking at the future work and actions for OneGeology. Minutes of the meeting will be available on the website soon.



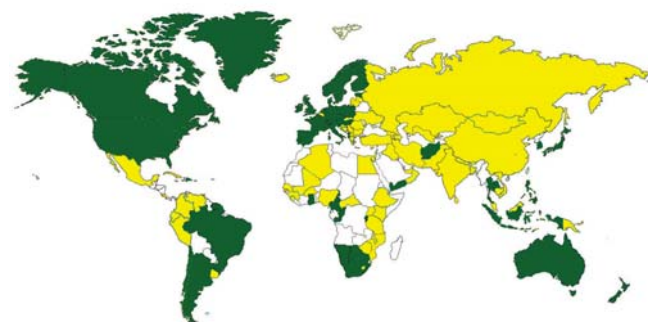


Participation at May 2010

There are currently 116 nations participating in OneGeology. The most recent to join are:

Malaysia 

Laos 



YES Network

[Home](#) [About](#) [Working Groups](#) [YES News](#) [Community News](#) [Ambassadors](#) [Leadership Team](#) [Join YES](#)



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OneGeology is discussion topic at the YES Network's roundtable symposium

We are very pleased that the YES (Young Earth Scientist) Network held a roundtable symposium focusing on OneGeology and the importance of mapping in geosciences, and the applications and models that they can apply to decision-making processes. Members of the OneGeology secretariat and management group invited to attend and presenters (both virtually and in person) included Ian Jackson (OneGeology Executive Secretary), Joanna Brayson (OneGeology secretariat), Lee Allsion (Arizona Geological Survey), Jan Jellema (TNO, Netherlands), Alexander Kronimus (TNO, Netherlands) and Kristine Asch (BGR, Germany).

Following the presentations, attendees together with the presenters discussed applications of OneGeology; ideas for collaboration between the YES Network and OneGeology; and how OneGeology can help in decision making processes. In addition to the speakers, 18 people took part in the roundtable discussions. A further 16 people participated virtually which allowed contributions from those not able to attend the EGU.

The roundtable was a success and OneGeology looks forward to collaborating with the YES Network on some of the ideas raised.

The YES Network's OneGeology Initiative Roundtable Symposium review can be seen at <http://network-yes.blogspot.com/2010/05/yes-networks-onegeology-initiative.html>

OneGeology features in keynote speech at EGU Vienna

European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2010, Vienna, Austria, 2-7 May 2010.



OneGeology-Europe submitted several abstracts to the EGU conference. There was also a 'fruits of IYPE' session in which OneGeology featured as a keynote speech, presented by Luca Demicheli.





OneGeology at the GEO Work Plan Symposium

OneGeology played a prominent role throughout a very successful week (17–19 May 2010) at the GEO Work Plan Symposium in Pretoria, South Africa. Activities started with a OneGeology presentation during the Data Management Session, under Global Datasets. This was one of only two global datasets represented at the session, and the OneGeology presentation was very well-received, with much interest from African countries like Madagascar. The OneGeology flyers also proved popular.

Many other topics were discussed in further sessions and OneGeology was consistently held up as an example of best practice that others should follow. The registration of OneGeology and access to it through the GEO portals has also helped to promote the initiative and generated high esteem in GEO circles.

It is hoped that OneGeology will be able to build on this and make a significant contribution to the Ministerial Summit in Beijing in November 2010.

ESRI Grant offer update

The GIS software company ESRI have offered OneGeology participants a grant comprising one copy of the ArcGIS system, along with maintenance and upgrades free for the first year and 50% discount for subsequent years and access to online training. It has been agreed that this grant will be non-exclusive and open to all those geological surveys participating in OneGeology. Grants are made to institutions, not to individuals and one grant per country will be offered. Further information on how to apply is on the website at http://www.onegeology.org/technical_progress/esriGrantOffer.html



1G-Europe

OneGeology-Europe has continued to progress and the project passed its 18 month (three-quarter) point. Work on gathering metadata from the 20 consortium data providers continues. This metadata will be in accordance with the INSPIRE compliant multilingual profile.

The prime task — the production of GeoSciML web map services meeting the geological data specification and associated vocabularies, is now well underway. Further functionality has been added to the web map portal.

A workshop to be held in Utrecht in June will allow team members and users to feedback and comment on the user requirements for geoscience data, gaps in service and data provision, and feedback on high-resolution and applied showcases.

The design and preparation of a high quality book on the application of geological data across Europe is on track and the book will be available in October.

One of the key achievements of the project is a commitment by 20 European Geological Surveys to make their 1:1 million scale map data available for free for download for all users.

The OneGeology-Europe project will complete in September 2010 with a closing workshop and final EC review in October 2010 in Paris.



Web News — NEW translation of 1Gkids pages

The OneGeology kids web pages are being progressively translated into other languages, so far we will publish three foreign languages; Danish, Slovenian and Turkish. This is a major contribution to OneGeology's global aims and hopefully will encourage children around the world to take an interest in geology! We have also received valuable feedback and suggestions for additional content and we will continue to develop these suggestions over coming months. Thank you to all who contacted us and please continue to send in your comments.

We have started work on a new section of the site called 'GeoDiversity' (the variety of earth materials, forms and processes that constitute and shape the Earth), where we will be linking the geology from the OneGeology portal to European Geoparks and World Heritage.



OneGeology forms a new association with Geoparks



OneGeology and the Geoparks Network have held positive talks and agreed to become more closely involved.

A Memo of Association between the two initiatives has been drafted as well as a proposal for new web pages linking from the OneGeology eXtra series, part of OneGeology's outreach programme to communicate the importance of geosciences to the general public. www.onegeology.org/eXtra/home.html

Geoparks is clearly linked with OneGeology outreach and this role for information on geological maps could be an important part of the development of the OneGeology portal.



The Geoparks Homepage.

The advantages of collaboration were recognised and endorsed by both initiatives' management boards who discussed the proposals at recent meetings. In April the OneGeology Steering Group met in New Zealand and the Geoparks GGN (Global Geoparks Network) Bureau met in Malaysia.

The Global Geoparks Network

In June 2000 representatives of four European territories, which had separately been promoting geological conservation and sustainable development, came together in Greece to discuss their common socio-economic problems and how to address these problems through the protection of geological heritage and the promotion of geological tourism. The result was the signing of a convention declaring the creation of the European Geoparks Network.

Geoparks and UNESCO

Since its beginning, the European Geoparks Network grew rapidly and successfully. A key early success was the signing of an official agreement of collaboration with UNESCO (the then Division of Earth Sciences) in April 2001.

What is a Geopark?

A Geopark is not just a collection of geological sites, but is a territory with geological heritage of international significance and with a sustainable territorial development strategy.

The European Geoparks Network

The Global Geoparks Network operates primarily through regional cooperation. Such regional cooperation is best exemplified by the European Geoparks Network which has been operating for 10 years.

Both OneGeology and Geoparks networks continue to expand rapidly and successfully. Both share the belief that by the exchange of knowledge, sharing skills and working together on a global scale will not only promote the importance of geology and the geosciences but also go some way to aiding sustainable tourism, such as that developed within geoparks, and could lead to job creation in local rural communities for the benefit of those communities.

The Geoparks website is www.europeangeoparks.org

OneGeology on New Zealand radio

Two national radio stations in New Zealand carried full interviews and news of OneGeology and the Steering Group meeting in Wellington in April.

OneGeology is set to feature in a new 2 part BBC Discovery Channel documentary called 'Naked Earth'. Ian Jackson has been invited to be Science Consultant for the programmes.

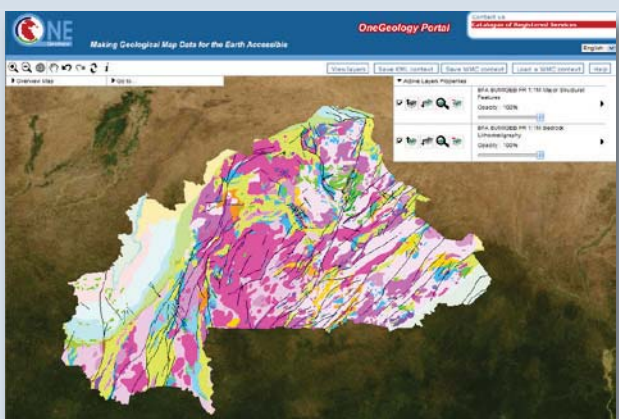


OneGeology Technical Progress

The latest country to serve its geological map data to the portal is Burkina Faso.



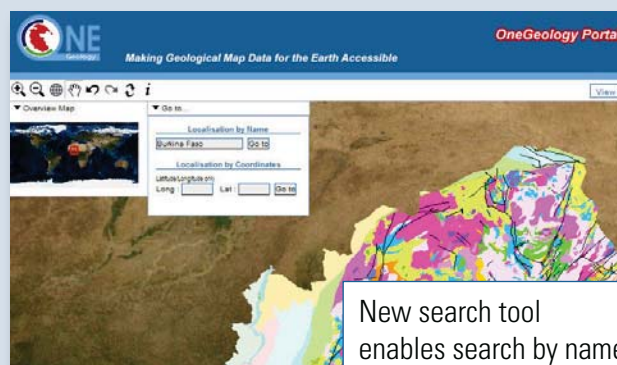
Geographical Area:	Burkina Faso
Data Provider:	Bureau des Mines et de la Géologie de Burkina Faso (BUMIGEB)
Service Provider:	British Geological Survey (BGS) WMS Software
Layers available:	1:1M Major structural features; 1:1M Bedrock lithostratigraphy



Burkina Faso: the latest country to serve data to the OneGeology portal.

Recent developments: new search tool

Development of the OneGeology portal continues to evolve and much work is being carried out by the team at BRGM (Bureau de Recherche Géologiques et Minières) in Orleans. Most recently this has included the modification of existing data with improvement of the map or the associated information. A new version of the portal is also available; this doesn't look too dissimilar to the previous version but has a new tool search tool tab on the top menu. This will enable you to find a location: either by the name of a location (town, city) or by its latitude/longitude. The client will display/zoom in to the area.



Cookbooks

The web map service (WMS) Cookbook is now available as a PDF that is generated from the webpages at www.onegeology.org/wmsCookbook/, so you'll always be able to download the latest version. For extra information, we have also added a 'last modified' date to the web pages.

Forthcoming events

Operational Management Group Meeting: this meeting will take place in Berlin on 24 August 2010. The agenda will focus on items raised at the Steering group meeting including the incorporation of OneGeology; a new proposed accreditation scheme for participants; recruiting new nations, particularly in Africa; and encouraging new data services.

OneGeology Workshops in Africa: OneGeology has been invited to submit workshop plans to the Colloquium of African Geology (CAG) 23 and American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAG) next year. CAG 23 will take place 8-14 January 2011 at the University of Johannesburg.

See their first circular at: www.aawg.org/AAWG/IMG/pdf/1st_Circular.pdf

The **AAAG's Annual Meeting** (American Association for the Advancement of Science) will take place 17–21 February 2011 in Washington DC. This year's meeting theme, 'Science without borders', integrates the practice of science, both in research and teaching, that utilizes multidisciplinary approaches to problem solving. Their website can be found at www.aas.org/meetings/

Further details of both events and OneGeology's role at each, will be published on the website as soon as plans are confirmed.

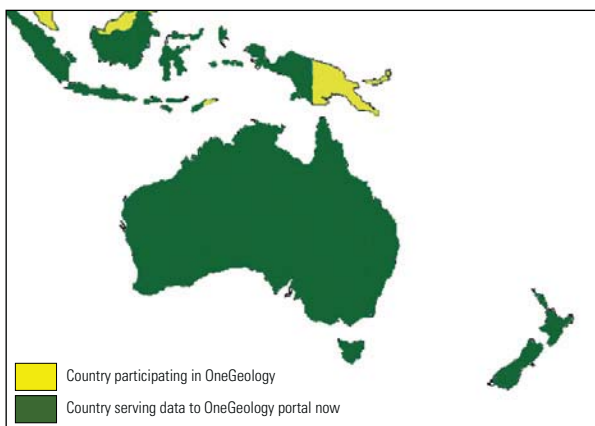


OneGeology Regional News: your update to what's happening in your region

Oceania

Australia: Victoria's Geology Goes Global

GeoScience Victoria's landmark Seamless Geology mapping data is now available via the OneGeology portal. By delivering its new seamless data for western Victoria, GSV is the first Australian state survey to contribute data to the project. It is also one of the few geological surveys in the world to provide complementary data in the powerful GeoScience Mark-up Language (GeoSciML), an international standard for geoscience information delivery developed with a significant Victorian contribution.

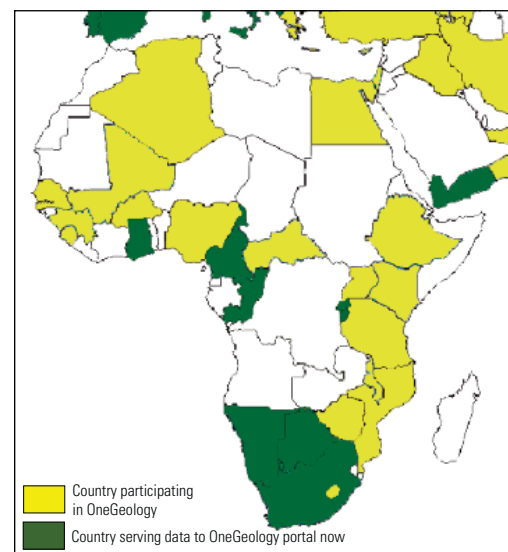


The same data provided to OneGeology is also registered with the Australian AuScope discovery portal, Google Earth, and will be delivered by GSV through the new version of its GeoVic web mapping application. This simple yet powerful way to deliver authoritative geological map data through multiple channels is the result of a collaboration across three projects within GSV: *GeoData.Vic*, which developed the underlying databases and applications, *Seamless Geology*, which created the data, and *Gold Undercover*, which developed the web services to deliver the data.

The contribution to OneGeology marks the beginning of a new era, which consolidates and unlocks the expertise of Victorian geoscientists, developed over 150 years of endeavour, for a global audience in digital format. The data is readily usable for a wide variety of purposes, including high-end computational geoscience to support major earth resource management decisions that underpin climate change adaptation and future minerals and energy security.

Africa

OneGeology technical representative, Tim Duffy provided training to OneGeology participants during a meeting and conference in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania (25 May). The organisation, SEAMIC (Southern and Eastern African Mineral Centre) are offering 'buddy' assistance to serve participating countries data to the portal to a number of countries in the Africa region. SEAMIC is working in association with AEGOS (African-European Georesources Observation System) throughout Africa and OneGeology welcomes its support. We look forward to seeing more data for Africa being served in the portal very soon. www.seamic.org/



OneGeology & AEGOS

The AEGOS (African-European Georesources Observation System) Mid-term Symposium takes place in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania (May 25th, 2010). The AEGOS project collaborates with OneGeology and other international programmes, including GEOSS and is contributing to the work plan. For more information on the conference, please see www.aegos-project.org/index.php

OneGeology was presented at the conference and a review of the event will subsequently be available on the OneGeology website.

North America

GEOCanada — 10–14 May 2010

A OneGeology presentation was given at the GeoCanada 2010 conference in Calgary on 13 May. The event brought together a broad range of scientists to present the latest developments across a complete spectrum of Earth Science professions, but with a stray focus on oil and gas.



Europe

Geoscience Information Consortium — 25th annual conference 10–14 May 2010

OneGeology was presented at the recent GIC conference held in Ljubljana, Slovenia on 10 May. The conference was hosted by the Geological Survey of Slovenia who are proactively involved in all aspects of OneGeology. Francois Robida of BRGM, presented the technical aspects of the OneGeology initiative and its recent progress. See <http://www.geology.cz/gic>



Marko Komac, Director of the Geological Survey of Slovenia, gave a OneGeology presentation at the 15th congress of the geologists of Serbia on 27th May 2010.

Miloš Bavec (Geological Survey of Slovenia) had an interview for the Radio Slovenia 1 discussing the OneGeology-Europe WP3 Workshop in Bled on 17th May 2010.

Marko Komac also gave an interview for the local Radio Kranj about the 1G Europe WP3 Workshop in Bled on 17 May 2010.

South & Central America

OneGeology training course — South Americas

The Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development (AECID) and the Instituto Geológico y Minero de España (IGME) supported and organised a OneGeology course named 'Web dissemination of geological maps and geological information' (*Difusion Telemática de Informacion y Cartografía Geológica*) in its annual training program. Geologists from the Geo-processing Division of the CPRM — The Geological Survey of Brazil, contributed to the course which took place in Cartagena de Indias (Colombia) from 12–16 of April. Funding for participants was available and 24 participants from ten countries of South America, Central America and Caribbean attended the event.



Brazilian team members presented their experiences in the installation of the Web Map Service (WMS), on assembling products in Geographic Information System (GIS), through the App ArcExibe, in their connections with GEOBANK — The Database from CPRM, in modeling databases and in the availability of collection on the Internet.

It was agreed by IGME that in 2011 a more advanced course covering major aspects of accessibility of databases and GIS collections on the Internet, WMS protocol and the use of ArcExibe will be available.

OneGeology would like to thank AECID for offering this valuable resource and the Instituto Geológico y Minero de España (IGME) for all their hard work in arranging it.

Knowledge exchange

CPRM, is actively transferring GIS technology and exchanging knowledge with its neighbour countries in order to harmonize the geology of South America. The GIS Project, 'Geological Map of South America' at 1:1 000 000 scale is in development under CPRM coordination. Currently, CPRM is serving 1:1 000 000 scale geological map data to the OneGeology portal. Countries also serving their map data in the region include Dominican Republic, Argentina, Chile and Suriname. All data can be accessed in the OneGeology portal at <http://portal.onegeology.org/>

Brazilian and Argentinean geologists participate in workshop to harmonize their geological borders

On March 15–19 geologists from CPRM (Brazil Geological Survey) and SEGEMAR (*Servicio Geológico Minero Argentino*) participated in a workshop in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where presentations included the application Web Map Service (WMS) (the basic level of data provision to OneGeology). The meeting aimed to promote the technology transfer and exchange experience between CPRM and SEGEMAR.

The meeting also featured presentations on the state of the art geological integration between Brazil and Argentina, part of the Project of Geological Mapping and Mineral Resources in Border Areas. These presentations demonstrated the integration of maps with GIS products and methodologies that allow standardisation and characterisation of different lithologies covering the border Brazil-Argentina-Paraguay.

