

# IUGS

Earth Science for the Global Community



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International Union of Geological Sciences [www.iugs.org](http://www.iugs.org)

The **International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS)** is a non-governmental organization representing a global membership of one million Earth scientists through its approximately 120 member countries and almost 50 affiliated organizations. It encourages international co-operation and participation in the Earth sciences with a view to understanding earth processes and earth resources especially in relation to human welfare.

Since its foundation in 1961, IUGS has been a member of the International Council for Science (ICSU). Membership is open to countries or defined regions through an adhering organization.

IUGS works through its Commissions, Subcommissions, Task Groups, and Joint Programmes and with the support of its international affiliated bodies to address Earth science issues of relevance to society.

Under the **International Geoscience Program (IGCP)** tens of thousands of Earth scientists from nearly every nation on earth have been involved in projects since 1972. It is a global program of scientific collaboration between scientists working on projects that have had a lasting impact. Get involved at [www.unesco.org/science/earth/](http://www.unesco.org/science/earth/)

The **International Geological Congress (IGC)**, held every four years under the scientific sponsorship of IUGS, attracts thousands of Earth scientists from around the world. Future venues: 2012 (Brisbane, Australia), 2016 (Cape Town, South Africa).

The **International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE 2007-2009)** is a joint initiative of IUGS and UNESCO. Under the tag line Earth Sciences for Society, a large number of scientific and outreach activities have brought improved knowledge of the importance of Earth sciences to the world. For more information: [www.yearofplanetearth.org](http://www.yearofplanetearth.org)

IUGS is active in publication and communication of Earth sciences worldwide. The quarterly science and news journal **Episodes** covering developments of regional and global importance in Earth science is distributed to about 150 countries worldwide (see [www.episodes.org](http://www.episodes.org))