

Daily Column

Celebrate the International Year of Soils with us!

In 2015, declared the International Year of Soils (IYS) by the United Nations, the Soil System Sciences (SSS) Division would like to invite you to come to the events we have organised at the EGU General Assembly and celebrate the IYS with us. Today we kick off with a Union Symposium (US5: 13.30–17.00 / Room B14) aimed at showing the importance of soils for global issues, like food security, water resources, climate change, land functions, biodiversity, and how policymakers at multiple levels are dealing with soils. In addition, we have also organised, in Hall Y, a display of World Reference Base (the international standard for soil resources) soil pictures and monoliths, together with a set of field equipment for simple soil tests, for interested participants to check out. Outside the main entrance we have set up a large lysimeter. Lastly, there are two films in the GeoCinema: 'The Symphony of Soils' and 'Dirt! The Movie'.

All in all, we hope you enjoy what we have set up for you to learn more about soils and see how they are a crucial part of the Earth system.

Artemi Cerdà and Saskia Keesstra
Outgoing and Incoming SSS Division Presidents



EGU Today helps you keep up with the many activities at the EGU General Assembly by highlighting sessions and events from the programme. If you have comments or questions, please email Bárbara Ferreira at media@egu.eu. The newsletter is also available online at www.egu2015.eu/egu_today.html.

The day's highlights at a glance

- **08:30** – Energy, resources & the environment (ERE1.1: Room R13) / Megacities: air quality and climate impacts from local to global scales (AS3.7: Room B16)
- **12:15** – EGU plenary (UM17: Room Y1)
- **13:30** – International Year of Soil – soil science within an interdisciplinary framework (US5: Room B14) / Rosetta: first results from the prime mission (PS4.2: Room Y5) / Natural hazards education, communications and science-policy-practice interface (NH9.4/EOS19: Room G6)
- **15:30** – Impact on global geoscience of accelerating Asian research (GDB2: Room Y1)
- **17:30** – Georg Wüst lecture & reception (KL5: Room Y4)
- **All day** – Medal lectures (various rooms: see below) / Short courses & YS events (various rooms: see below) / Meet EGU (EGU Booth) / GIFT workshop for teachers (EOS1: Room G10)

Message from the EGU Programme Committee Chair

Dear participants: Welcome to Vienna for the 2015 EGU General Assembly! The conveners worked hard to offer a wide spectrum of sessions, featuring posters, PICOs (interactive screen presentations), and talks. I hope many of you will attend one of the many short courses on offer and, if you have the time, join the Great Debates and Union Symposia. You could also check out the two theme lectures and the various exhibitions that explore this year's theme: A Voyage through Scales. There are also movies in GeoCinema, a photo competition, and various other exhibitions for you to enjoy. Or you can simply network with colleagues in the hallways and seating areas. Whatever you do, I wish you have a fruitful and enjoyable week here in Vienna.

Gerrit de Rooij
Programme Committee Chair



A Voyage through Scales exhibitions

- Scales of the General Assembly: EGU2015 in numbers.
- Scales of peer review: watch peer review from a different perspective
- Scales in EGU journals: experience the beauty of science through the lens of our publications
- Scales in art: watch the artistic interpretation of the theme develop over the week

Short courses & young scientist events

- Big Earth data: standards & technologies (SC35: 08:30–12:00 / Room R7)
- Water sciences pop-ups (HS1.6: 10:30–12:00 / PICO Spot 2)
- Quantitative interrogation of high-resolution DEMs (GM11.3/SC48: 13:30–15:00 / Room G2)
- Open science, public engagement and outreach: why bother? (SC22: 17:30–19:00 / Room B1)
- Use of 3D point clouds in geosciences: acquisition, processing and applications (SC41: 17:30–20:00 / Room B7)
- How to write and publish your research in soil science journals and new dynamic reference projects (SC5/SSS0.17: 19:00–20:15 / Room B2)

Today's medal lectures

- Arne Richter Award for Outstanding Young Scientists Lecture by Francesca Pianosi (ML7: 15:30–16:00 / Room R6)
- Louis Agassiz Medal Lecture by Michiel van den Broeke (ML19: 19:00–20:00 / Room R1)

EGU plenary

This session (UM17) is the main meeting for bringing forward new ideas to the EGU. Join us in Room Y1 from 12:15–13:15 today. Free sandwiches and soft drinks will be served.

GeoCinema Highlights

Room GeoCinema



The Mystery of the Giant Crystals, 12:15–13:00



Communicate your Science Video Competition Finalists, 18:45–19:00

Meet EGU at the EGU Booth

- Executive Secretary (Philippe Courtial), 08:30–09:15
- Division President of Atmospheric Sciences (Oksana Tarasova), 09:15–10:00
- Publications Committee Chair (Hubert H. G. Savenije), 09:15–10:00
- Executive Editor of SOIL (Eric C. Brevik), 13:30–15:00
- Division President of Tectonics and Structural Geology (Susanne Buitert), 14:15–15:00
- Division President of Geomorphology (Andreas Lang), 15:00–15:45
- Division President of Geosciences Instrumentation and Data Systems (Walter Schmidt), 15:00–15:45
- Programme Committee Chair (Gerrit de Rooij), 16:00–16:30
- Division President of Earth Magnetism & Rock Physics (Angelo De Santis), 15:45–17:15
- General Secretary (Mioara Mandea), 16:30–17:15
- Division President of Planetary & Solar System Sciences (Özgür Karatekin), 16:30–17:15

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Impact on global geoscience of accelerating Asian research

This Great Debate, co-organised by the EGU and AOGS (the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society), will discuss how accelerating scientific and technological research in Asia impacts the geosciences on a global scale. Topics to be considered include the enormous increase in the numbers of papers submitted to scientific journals (and the challenges this causes for editors and reviewers), the increase in support by funding agencies to many Asian universities and research institutes, and opportunities and implications of collaboration and mobility of researchers between Asian countries and the West, among others.

GDB2: 15:30–17:00 / Room Y1

Georg Wüst lecture & reception

Carsten Eden, a theoretical oceanographer from the University of Hamburg, Germany, will give a presentation on energetically consistent ocean models. It will be followed by a reception.

KL5: 17:30–20:00 / Room Y4

Energy, resources & the environment

This general session of the ERE Division gives an overview of its interdisciplinarity, which is needed to tackle the challenges of the future. It includes a talk by Vera Heck (Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, Germany) on the effects of geoengineering.

ERE1.1: 08:30–10:00 / Room R13 & Red Posters



Image credit: KARI/ESA

GIFT workshop for teachers

The EGU Geosciences Information For Teachers (GIFT) programme offers school teachers the opportunity to upgrade their knowledge in geoscientific themes and to shorten the time between new discoveries and textbook information. The general theme of this year's workshop is Mineral Resources, and it includes talks by Patrice Christmann (French Geological Survey) and John Ludden (British Geological Survey), among others.

EOS1: Mon, 08:30–12:00 and 13:30–18:00; Tue, 08:30–12:00 and 13:30–19:00; Wed, 08:30–12:00 / Room G10

Megacities: air quality and climate impacts from local to global scales

Metropolitan areas with more than 10 million inhabitants, known as megacities, are tied directly to increasing demands for energy and associated industrial activities that lead to accelerated stress and impacts on the environment. This session features atmospheric science presentations on research conducted in large urban centers around the world, including studies on aerosols, air quality and regional climate.

AS3.7: 08:30–12:00 / Room B16 & Blue Posters

Rosetta: first results from the prime mission

This session presents the first results from Rosetta, a mission of the European Space Agency, on Comet 67P/Churyumov–Gerasimenko.

PS4.1: Mon, 13:30–17:15 / Room Y5 & Red Posters; Tue, 10:30–12:00 & 13:30–17:30 / Room Y5

Natural hazards education, communications and science-policy-practice interface

This session addresses how we communicate and educate students, the public, policymakers, and practitioners about natural hazards.

NH9.4/EOS19: 13:30–15:00 / Room G6 & Blue Posters

Photo and video competitions

We've received over 200 photos for this year's EGU Photo Contest. You can find the finalist images, and vote for the three winners (by the end of the day on Thursday), in Hall X, Blue Level, next to the EGU Booth. We are also running a Communicate Your Science Video Competition for young scientists: check our YouTube channel (youtube.com/user/EuroGeosciencesUnion) and like your favourite videos! The results for both competitions will be announced at on Friday at 12:15 by the EGU Booth.

What's on tomorrow

- Oral presentation feedback round (SC41: Tue, 08:30–10:00 / Room B4)
- Celebrating 200 years of modelling of geological processes (US2: 08:30–12:00 / Room B9)
- A Voyage through Scales – water in terrestrial systems (GL1: 13:30–14:30 / Room Y1)