



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL GEOSCIENCE PROGRAMME (IGCP) COUNCIL:

What is the IGCP?

The International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) is a joint endeavour between UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) and IUGS (International Union of Geological Sciences), within the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme of UNESCO (IGGP).

The primary aims of IGCP are to facilitate international collaboration amongst scientists from around the world in research on geological problems, particularly between those individuals from more industrialized and those from developing countries or, increasingly, between scientists from developing countries. Through long-term joint research efforts, meetings, field trips, and workshops, IGCP aims to promote the use of geosciences in global issues including, but not limited to, sustainable development, the health and safety of humanity and the reduction of the adverse effects of natural disasters and resource extraction.

Since its creation in 1972, IGCP has supported 360 projects in about 150 countries. IGCP provides geoscientific projects with seed money, typically between US\$ 5,000 and 10,000 per year for a maximum duration of five years. The financial support covers part of the costs of organizing and managing research, meetings and workshops related to the project and is also meant to facilitate participation by scientists from developing countries.

IGCP has proven to be a very successful and cost-effective way of promoting sustainable development by enhancing geoscientific knowledge and expertise in developing countries.

IGCP projects must meet the following criteria:

- Focus on high-quality science relevant to the scientific objectives of the IGCP;
- Meet a need of international importance and societal relevance;
- Emphasize interdisciplinary cooperation;
- Constitute international participation including scientists from developing countries;
- Demonstrate potential for both long-term and short-term geoscientific and/or societal benefits;
- Include capacity building workshops or activities and/or educational trainings, especially focused towards young scientists and scientists from the developing world;
- Explicitly acknowledge the sponsorship of UNESCO, IUGS, and IGCP; and,
- Promote global geoscience visibility, for example, through the publication of scientific results using internationally recognized scientific journals, but also other forms of more informal media (e.g. website, TV programs, exhibits, public briefings for decision makers),
- A report summarizing the scientific highlights and achievements in EPISODES after 3 years

More information on IGCP can be found online at:

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/earth-sciences/international-geoscience-programme/>

TERMS OF REFERENCE

In accordance with the [Statutes of the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme \(IGGP\)](#) (see Part A, Article 2.2) and the [Operational Guidelines of the International Geoscience Programme \(IGCP\)](#) (see Article 5.2), the six ordinary members of the IGCP Council shall be appointed by mutual agreement of the Director-General of UNESCO and the President of IUGS.

Council composition

The IGCP Council shall be composed of six ordinary members, with the right to vote, as well as the Director-General of UNESCO and the Secretary-General of the IUGS or their representatives who shall be *ex officio* members of the IGCP Council without the right to vote.

Profile of the Members of the IGCP Council

IGCP Council members shall be high-profile experts chosen for their proven experience, scientific or professional qualifications in relevant fields, taking into account an equitable geographical distribution and gender equality. They shall serve in a personal capacity, not as representatives of their respective States or any other affiliated entities. They will be required to ensure that they have no conflict of interest and that they will not seek or accept instructions from governments or other authorities.

Council Members must fulfil at least three of the criteria below:

- Hold a PhD in Earth sciences
- Have a proven exemplary track record in a particular field of research and still be actively doing research
- Be considered a high-level expert in a particular field
- Have a proven record of international scientific collaborations

Term of office

Ordinary members of the IGCP Council shall be appointed for a term of four years, renewable once. Every two years, half the membership of the IGCP Council shall be renewed. When appointing the initial members of the IGCP Council, the Director-General of UNESCO shall indicate those whose initial term shall expire after two years.

Responsibilities of an IGCP Council member

As a member of the IGCP Council, you and your respective team members on the IGCP Council assisted by the members of the Scientific Board* will need to assess the progress of about half a dozen existing projects as provided in their annual reports and also critique several new project proposals for future funding. For the current call, five members of the IGCP Council will cover each one of the following themes: Earth Resources, Global Change, Geohazards, Hydrogeology, and Geodynamic. Ahead of the annual IGCP Council meeting, you will be required to compile the project evaluations and responses by the Scientific Board members in your own thematic group.

* *Scientific Board: evaluates project proposals and annual reports of active projects in terms of their scientific merit, their financial needs, their economic and social interest and their appropriateness to the general scope of IGCP and to make recommendations concerning the proposals and projects to the IGCP Council.*

Subsequently, you will have the chance to participate in the annual IGCP Council Meeting in Paris (France), where the IGCP Council members will discuss the compiled responses and comments. The Council members must be ready to dedicate time to travel to the Council meeting and study the many documents related to the IGCP projects. Council meetings are held in English therefore a good knowledge of the English language would also be required.

IGCP Council members are expected to develop and implement fundraising activities to increase the budget of IGCP and consequently improve and enlarge the possibilities of the IGCP project seed funding.

Council sessions

The annual session of the IGCP Council will be held in Paris during January-February. After the appointment of new members, the Council will begin the subsequent ordinary sessions electing a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and a Rapporteur who shall remain in office for two years.

PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION

The following documents should be sent directly to the IGCP Secretariat in UNESCO. The language of all documents shall be English.

- Completed nomination form and declaration on the respect of the IGCP Statutes, IGCP Operational Guidelines as well as on the fact there are no conflict of interest
- Detailed CV (including a complete publication list and a list of research projects in which the candidate is/has been involved for the last 5 years)
- A list of your 10 most important publications during the 10 last years
- Cover letter explaining motivation and added value of the candidate to the IGCP Council