

Colloquium of African Geology CAG23
Johannesburg 8 – 14 January 2011

WS6 A, B, C "Geoscientific information infrastructures in Africa" OneGeology-AEGOS-GIRAF

About the Workshop

This workshop brings together the three complimentary initiatives of OneGeology, AEGOS and GIRAF to provide Geoscientific information and developments in Africa.

The Global Perspective

OneGeology

OneGeology is a global initiative of the geological surveys of the world. Its aims are to make geological map data accessible via the internet to all; exchange the know-how to enable all nations to contribute; and to improve interoperability using the web language GeoSciML. This workshop will be presented in three parts; the first session will provide an overview of the OneGeology initiative, an update on progress to date, and how to participate and register your geological map information. Part two will be a technical session detailing how to prepare your data, WMS and WFS services and how to serve your data following the 'Cookbook'. The final part of this workshop will allow opportunity to share experiences and feedback.

The Africa Perspective

AEGOS

AEGOS is the African-European Georesources Observation System. The purpose of this international project is to design and set up a pan-African spatial data infrastructure (SDI) of public, interoperable geology-related data about metallic / industrial minerals, groundwater and geothermal energy. All geological surveys, geoscientific research communities and authorities in charge of the management of underground natural resources are concerned by and invited to participate to the building of this distributed architecture. Along with user-oriented products and services, AEGOS will foster and strengthen the sustainable use of georesources in Africa. This continental observation system will provide support to a wide range of end-users: policy-makers at all geographic levels, development agencies, private sector actors, geoscientific communities as well as education, research and civil society.

This workshop will present the achievements of AEGOS phase 1, i.e. the design of this new SDI for Georesources in Africa in terms of architecture, standards, reference model, data, products, services and interdisciplinarity with other thematic African and global SDIs (e.g. OneGeology). The second session will cover the capacity building issues related to the development of such an infrastructure on the continent. The third session will promote the project phase 2 and the extension of the network of participants in view to implement the operational AEGOS.

GIRAF – The Future Perspective

GIRAF is an initiative to stimulate the adoption of appropriate information and communication technology (ICT) in the geological surveys of Africa and to help build the pan-African geoscience knowledge network. We held our inaugural meeting in Windhoek in March 2009 and attracted almost 100 geoscientists from 30 countries (26 of them African countries) and heard reports of the varying degrees of development of ICT capacity across Africa. A second meeting is planned for Tanzania later in 2011. The workshop at CAG23 is designed to raise awareness of GIRAF amongst the broader geosciences community in Africa and to collect input and ideas that could support the project's goals. The GIRAF executive will review the scale of the task ahead based on national reports from the Windhoek meeting and highlight successes (and failures?) since then in mobilising the necessary resources and the self-help network

Who should attend?

- all those who intend to participate and serve data to the OneGeology Portal and those interested in the OneGeology Initiative wishing to provide support and assistance.
- all those who intend to facilitate the visibility and access to African georesources data, end-user products and services through the AEGOS spatial data infrastructure and those interested in participating to the development of AEGOS phase 2.
- all those who are involved in GIRAF and who wish to move the initiative forward

Event	CAG23: "Geoscientific information infrastructures in Africa" WS6 Joint Workshop: OneGeology-AEGOS-GIRAF				
Objective	Disseminate information and provide technical advice on OneGeology AEGOS and GIRAF to encourage participation.				
Lead	Ian Jackson, Marc Urvois, Kristine Asch				
Date	12 January 2011 (no clash with fieldtrips/weekends preferred)	Time	08:30-17:30	Duration	1 day
Participation	Technical participants	Numbers		Max 40 for room (est 30)	
Venue	?	Arrangement	Boardroom/theatre?		
Audio/Visuals	Screen and projector for laptop, internet access				
Presentations	OneGeology: Ian Jackson AEGOS: Marc Urvois, and AEGOS consortium partners (Council for Geoscience, South Africa; ...) GIRAF: Kristine Asch; Felix Toteu				
Hospitality	BGS will sponsor tea/coffee breaks and light lunch if necessary Course fees: none				
Publicity	Website, newsletter, email, posters at venue				
Timetable	AGENDA				
First Session	08:30: Introduction to OneGeology – Africa in a global perspective: Ian Jackson 08:40: Introduction to AEGOS – Building the Spatial Data Infrastructure for Georesources in Africa: Marc Urvois 08:50: Introduction to GIRAF: Kristine Asch				
	The Global perspective: OneGeology				
	1. Introduction 09:00-09:45	OneGeology - review of recent progress. How to participate and how to serve your data.			IJ
	2. Participation 09:45-10:30	Informal presentations from participating countries outlining their experiences			Workshop attendees
	<i>Coffee Break 10:30 – 11:00</i>				
3. Feedback session 11:00-11:30	Feedback and discussion on future of OneGeology and OneGeology in Africa Conclusions and actions			Workshop attendees	
Second Session	The Africa Perspective: AEGOS				
	AEGOS – African-European Georesources Observation System				
	1. Introduction 11:30-11:50	Introduction to AEGOS SDI and associated projects			MU
	2. Results of Phase 1 11:50-13:00	- What? (data, products, services) - How? (SDI reference model, standards, contribution of data producers) - Who else? (other African / global SDIs projects and initiatives) - Capacity building strategies and training programmes			CGS
<i>Lunch Break 13:00 – 14:00</i>					

	3. Towards Phase 2 14:00-14:30	- Sustainable AEGOS infrastructure / Data Sharing / Charter of partnership - Extending the AEGOS network of participants / End-User Committee - Discussion	CGS + MU and attendees
Third Session	The Future Perspective: GIRAF		
	GIRAF – Geoscience Information in Africa		
	1. Introduction 14:30-14:50	Introduction to GIRAF and review of recent progress	KA/FT
	2. 14:50-15:10	Educational aspects	SG
	15:10-16:00	Feedback and progress on African national and cross-boundary geoinformation projects	FT/CR and attendees
	<i>Coffee Break 16:00 – 16:30</i>		
	16:30-17:00	Results, next steps and future of GIRAF - Geoscience information in Africa - discussion	KA + FT and attendees
Fourth Session	17:00-17:30	Round-up session on all three projects – ideas for improved collaboration and integration	All participants