



## ASSOCIATION OF GEOSCIENTISTS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (AGID)

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<b>Past President</b> <b>Dr Shrikant D Limaye</b> Director, Ground Water Institute 2050 Sadashiv Peth, Pune, India. E-mail: <a href="mailto:limaye@vsnl.com">limaye@vsnl.com</a> Tel. +91 20 2433 1262	<b>Secretary-Treasurer</b> <b>Dr. Anthony .J. Reedman</b> Director (Retd.) Int. Division, B.G.S. 15 Malvern Rd, Mapperley, Nottingham, UK E-mail: <a href="mailto:antony@areedman.wanadoo.co.uk">antony@areedman.wanadoo.co.uk</a> Tel.+44 (0) 115 962 1063	<b>Vice Presidents: Regional</b> Dr. Sandra Barr, Canada (N.America) Dr. Arlei Mecedo, Brazil (S America) Dr. V. Nemeč, Czech Republic (Europe) Dr. Okunlola, Nigeria (Africa & Oceania) Dr. Viqar Husain, Pakistan (Asia)
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Dear Colleagues,

For your kind consideration, we wish to mention here that the 34<sup>th</sup> IGC (International Geological Congress) is going to be organized by IUGS (the International Union of Geological Sciences) in Brisbane, Australia, from August 5<sup>th</sup> to August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012 with the title “**Unearthing Our Past And Future – Resourcing Tomorrow**”. Further, we would like to highlight the fact that during the 34<sup>th</sup> IGC, AGID (the Association of Geoscientists for International Development) is going to organize eight symposia under the Theme-2 “**Geoscience Benefiting Low Income Countries**”, one of the 37 themes of the 34<sup>th</sup> IGC. AGID symposia under the Theme-2 are given below with short synopses. Please **visit website: [www.34igc.org](http://www.34igc.org)** for detailed and update information.

### **IGC 2012 Theme 2. Geoscience Benefiting Low-Income Countries**

**Theme Coordinators:** Mike Katz ([M.Katz@unsw.edu.au](mailto:M.Katz@unsw.edu.au)), Shrikant Limaye ([limaye@vsnl.com](mailto:limaye@vsnl.com)),  
Afia Akhtar ([afia@agni.com](mailto:afia@agni.com)), Antony Reedman ([antony@areedman.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:antony@areedman.wanadoo.co.uk))

*This Theme recognizes the importance of creating social awareness and capacity building in low income countries, in relation to groundwater management and rural health; geohazards; climate change; medical geology for human survival and welfare; geoplanning for urban development and infrastructure; role of geosciences in protecting ecosystems; geoethics; role of women geoscientists in resource development; construction and industrial minerals; production of mineral and energy resources.*

### **Symposium 1: Improving Rural Health and Mitigating Rural Poverty through Sustainable Ground Water Development**

**Convenors** - Shrikant Limaye ([limaye@vsnl.com](mailto:limaye@vsnl.com)), Afia Akhtar ([afia@agni.com](mailto:afia@agni.com))

*The focus of this Symposium is on highlighting experiences, in groundwater development and management, gained through work on projects/programs of providing irrigational supply and/or safe quality drinking water supply from dug wells, bore wells and tube wells, in various hydrogeological, agro-climatic and socio-economic situations in low income countries. The Symposium is connected with UNESCO-IUGS-IGCP Project 523 “GROWNET”(website:[www.igcp-grownet.org](http://www.igcp-grownet.org)).The symposium invites papers on experiences in managing and conserving ground water resources and ensuring sustainability of the quality and quantity of ground water, for improving rural health and rural economy.*

### **Symposium 2: Creating Social Awareness, Preparedness and Capacity-Building for Mitigating GeoHazards**

**Convenors:** Karen Villhoth ([kgv@geus.dk](mailto:kgv@geus.dk)), Shrikant Limaye ([limaye@vsnl.com](mailto:limaye@vsnl.com)),  
Antony Reedman ([antony@areedman.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:antony@areedman.wanadoo.co.uk))

*Earth sciences have much to contribute to the reduction of risks from GeoHazards caused by natural processes and also by anthropogenic activities. In the 21st century, global population will approach 10 billion people and climate change could have significant effects on the health, safety and well being of populations. Some examples of GeoHazards are landslides, rock flow, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, droughts, floods, land subsidence and contamination of ground water The hard learned experiences in creating awareness in society, in capacity building in the Public Sector for decision making and in initiating remedial actions will be the basis of the symposium*



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### **Symposium 3: Developing Geoscience Education and Awareness for the Benefit of Society**

**Convenors:** M. Nurul Hasan ([mn\\_hasan@ymail.com](mailto:mn_hasan@ymail.com)), Mike Katz ([M.Katz@unsw.edu.au](mailto:M.Katz@unsw.edu.au))  
Gbenga Okunlola ([gbengaokunlola@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gbengaokunlola@yahoo.co.uk)), Antony Reedman  
([antony@areedman.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:antony@areedman.wanadoo.co.uk)), Chris King ([chris@cjhking.plus.com](mailto:chris@cjhking.plus.com))

*It is the wish of all people to live in safe and healthy communities with a prospect of increasing prosperity. A safe supply of potable water, a sustainable food supply and a wide range of other natural resources are required to attain this ambition and ensuring their availability draws heavily on geoscientific knowledge. This symposium seeks to expose innovative ideas and projects, working both through the formal education system and informal community networks, that seek to raise geoscience awareness amongst the people*

### **Symposium 4: Geoplanning for Urban Development and Infrastructure and Protecting Ecosystems**

**Convenors:** Afia Akhtar ([afia@agni.com](mailto:afia@agni.com)), Mehedi Ahmed Ansary ([ansary@ce.buet.ac.bd](mailto:ansary@ce.buet.ac.bd)),  
Shrikant Limaye ([limaye@vsnl.com](mailto:limaye@vsnl.com)), Sospeter Muhongo ([s.muhongo@bol.co.tz](mailto:s.muhongo@bol.co.tz)),  
Gbenga Okunlola ([gbengaokunlola@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gbengaokunlola@yahoo.co.uk))

*Cities of low income countries are expanding rapidly without incorporating geoscience data. The reconstruction of a large number of cities is needed for improvement of their infrastructure. The proper geoscience study will help in investigation and appraisal of reconstruction of old cities and development of new cities by providing a scientific basis for its planning and construction. But these development activities may destroy ecosystems if proper attention should not be paid to protect natural environment, conserve natural resources and mitigate adverse effects of hazards. A multidisciplinary approach is needed for protection of ecosystems. Papers are invited in consideration of geo-hazards, geo-environment and geotechnical conditions for urban planning and development.*

### **Symposium 5: Geoethics**

**Convenors:** Vaclav Nemecek ([lidmila.nemcova@quick.cz](mailto:lidmila.nemcova@quick.cz)), Jesus Martinez-Frias ([jmfrias@cab.inta-csic.es](mailto:jmfrias@cab.inta-csic.es))  
Nataliya Nikitina ([NikitinaNK@mmcintergeo.ru](mailto:NikitinaNK@mmcintergeo.ru)), Niichi Nishiwaki ([niichi@daibutsu.nara-u.ac.jp](mailto:niichi@daibutsu.nara-u.ac.jp)), Silvia Peppoloni ([silvia.peppoloni@ingv.it](mailto:silvia.peppoloni@ingv.it))

*Abstracts are invited on the theory and practice of Geoethics, which recognizes the necessity of an ethical attitude to the geosphere and of finding ways to solve ethical dilemmas primarily in connection with natural hazards (including risk of unavoidable disasters), sustainable use of Earth resources and space exploration. Education is essential for facilitating responsible decision-making based on integration of moral and cultural values with social, environmental, technical and economic considerations.*

### **Symposium 6: Role of Women Geoscientists in Resource Development**

**Convenors:** Afia Akhtar ([afia@agni.com](mailto:afia@agni.com)), Madhumita Das ([madhumitadas\\_geo@rediffmail.com](mailto:madhumitadas_geo@rediffmail.com))  
Essoura Errami ([erramiezzoura@yahoo.fr](mailto:erramiezzoura@yahoo.fr)), Mike Katz ([M.Katz@unsw.edu.au](mailto:M.Katz@unsw.edu.au))  
Sharon Locke ([sharon.locke1@gmail.com](mailto:sharon.locke1@gmail.com)), Antony Reedman  
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*In most countries in the past, women have been under-represented in the geoscientific professions. How and why is this now changing, how can change be accelerated and does the position of women in society allow*



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*them to play a special role in natural and human resource development? Papers, with special reference to low-income countries, addressing such questions and discussing innovative policies and projects relating to women in geoscience are invited for this symposium.*

### Symposium 7: Mineral and Energy Resources, Construction and Industrial Minerals

**Convenors:** Mike Katz ([M.Katz@unsw.edu.au](mailto:M.Katz@unsw.edu.au)), Afia Akhtar ([afia@agni.com](mailto:afia@agni.com)),  
Gbenga Okunlola ([gbengaokunlola@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gbengaokunlola@yahoo.co.uk)), Nehal Uddin ([nehal.gsb@gmail.com](mailto:nehal.gsb@gmail.com))

*Sustainable socio-economic infrastructure of a nation is an indication in it's richness in mineral resources, technological know how and its capability in extracting and utilizing those resources in development activities. Low income countries are behind in development activities due to lack of good economic conditions and properly educated human resources in geosciences. Large and wide varieties of fuel and non-fuel mineral, construction and industrial minerals are insufficient to satisfy growing demand because of the substantial increase in consumption. A strong economy is related to the growth of mineral based industries. Robust investment in this sector becomes the main engine of economic growth. Papers are invited to be presented and discussed and the outcome of the symposium will be an attempt to formulate guidelines to address these issues.*

### Symposium 8: The Role of Geological Surveys in the Development and Management of Natural Resources, Groundwater and Disaster Risk Reduction.

**Convenors:** Antony Reedman ([antony@areedman.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:antony@areedman.wanadoo.co.uk)), Afia Akhtar ([afia@agni.com](mailto:afia@agni.com)), David Denham ([denham@webone.com.au](mailto:denham@webone.com.au)), Siyan Malomos ([malomos@yahoo.com](mailto:malomos@yahoo.com)), He Qincheng ([heqc@ccop.or.th](mailto:heqc@ccop.or.th))

*Most countries have established Geological Surveys or similar organisations that are responsible for supplying the geological information required to aid the development and management of national georesources and the reduction of risks from geohazards. In many low-income countries the collection and dissemination of national geological data and information suffers from a lack of financial resources and trained personnel. This symposium seeks examples of projects, both international and domestic, aimed at overcoming these difficulties and producing sustainable outcomes assuring the future provision of nationwide geological data and information.*

We, on behalf of AGID, would like to invite you all to submit abstract(s) for the above symposia and to attend the 34<sup>th</sup> IGC in Brisbane, Australia in August 2012. We sincerely hope that your contribution and attendance would make the AGID symposia a great success. The Congress website will be opened for submission of Abstracts from May 23, 2011 until February 17, 2012. A GeoHost program will be available to offer support to delegates especially from low income countries and details can be found on the Congress Website.

Dr. Mike Katz

Dr. S.D. Limaye

Dr. Anthony J Reedman

Ms. Afia Akhtar