

GEOETHICS NEWS

September 2010

Introduction: For technical reasons it has been considered appropriate to issue this abbreviated and simplified version of GEOETHICS NEWS as either a printed version or as a purely informative e-mail. Thanks to the AGID National Chapter in Spain, and especially to its Coordinator Professor Jesus Martinez Frías, the complete coloured version is available (as well as all previous issues since 2007) at

http://tierra.rediris.es/Geoethics_Planetary_Protection/

It is only necessary to follow the right side and to press the numbers of years or the months: **2010** ([September](#), [June](#), [March](#)), **2009** ([Dec.](#), [Aug.](#), [June](#), [Apr.](#)), **2008 and 2007**.

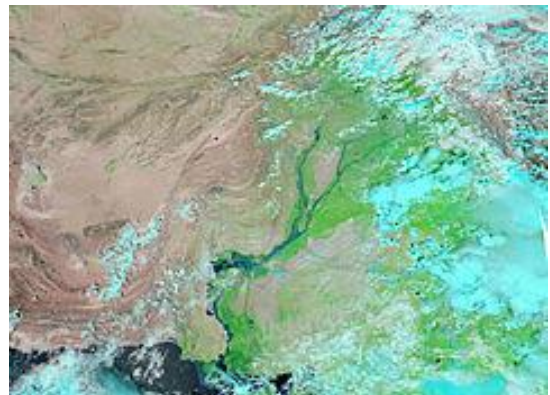
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NEW CHALLENGES FOR GEOETHICS

2010 Pakistan floods

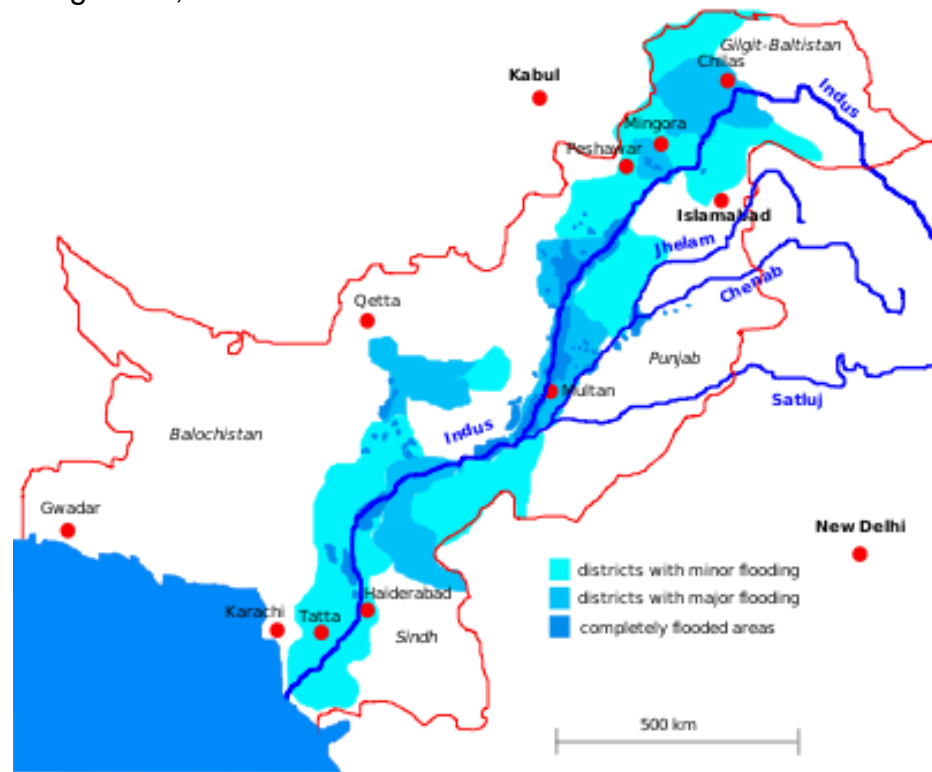


A bridge damaged by the flooding



A NASA satellite image showing the Indus river at the time of floods

Affected areas as of August 26, 2010



2010 China floods



Flooding along the [Gan River](#) in [Zhangshu](#), [Jiangxi](#)

2010 Oaxaca landslide in Mexico



Debris from fallen trees and damaged homes lay on the ground in the town of Oxolotan in the gulf state of Tabasco, September 27, 2010



This raging river on Sept. 28 had cut off the bridge to the town of Santa Maria Tlahuitoltepec in Oaxaca, Mexico. Dozens of rescue vehicles were stuck at the crossing

Floods ravage north Bohemia - Foreign - The Sofia Echo



Flash floods tore through the town of Chrastava in the Liberec region Aug. 7-8, 2010, destroying homes and livelihoods



Think about all these and numerous other disasters, help to develop new ideas for geoethics!

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NOT ONLY ARE ALL GEOETHICS NEWS SINCE 2007 AVAILABLE

at the above mentioned address. It is now also possible to open other interesting information concerning:

[International Union of Geological Sciences \(IUGS\)](#);

Association of Geoscientists for International Development (AGID)
- an affiliate of IUGS;

[Global Ethics Observatory](#): The observatory is a **system of databases with worldwide coverage** in bioethics and other areas of applied ethics in science and technology such as environmental ethics, science ethics, and technology ethics. GEObs is available in UNESCO's six official languages.

[UNESCO's Ethics Around the World](#) and other useful news (including those from the AGID National Chapter in Spain).

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EVENTS IN PREPARATION



THE MINING PŘÍBRAM SYMPOSIUM

OCTOBER 10 – 14, 2011

Příbram, Czech Republic

the **International Section GEOETHICS** with a joint meeting of the **Working Group for Geoethics (AGID)**. The agenda of the meeting will cover preparations for the International Geological Congress 2012 (with the AGID General Assembly and Symposia on Geoethics - see the text below). **Contacts:** page 7.

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THE 34th INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

AUGUST 5 – 10, 2012

Brisbane, Australia

<http://www.34igc.org>

About the recent correspondence with the top IGC representatives:

Very intensive contacts have been realized with the top organizers of the Congress, mainly with the Secretary General Dr. Ian Lambert. The following extract shall be of interest to all who plan to attend the Congress and there especially everything about geoethics.

----- Original Message -----

From: ian.Lambert@ga.gov.au

To: limaye@vsnl.com ; lidmila.nemcova@quick.cz ; afia@dhaka.agni.com

Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2010 3:02 AM

Subject: RE: AGID Symposia proposal to the 34th IGC in Brisbane:- GEOETHICS

Dear all,

I can assure you all that there will be one (or more) Symposium on Geoethics. It will be difficult to finalise the details of the Symposia until we know how many Geoethics abstracts come in. We have been receiving suggestions for changes to our Draft scientific program at www.34igc.org, but it is not possible to update this progressively, so do not be too concerned at this stage. What we have been focussed on is getting the First Circular out (next week). To do this we have rationalised our list of Themes and we list indicative Symposia to be considered under each of these Themes. Given that we are covering all aspect of the geosciences, it is simply not possible to go into any more detail at this stage.

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I would also like to make the general observation that, because the 34th IGC will be such a large congress and the scientific program has to be fitted into 5 days, we will be looking to combine rather than split various aspects to ensure that Symposia are viable. Put simply, we have a limit on the number of lecture rooms so we are likely to have to group topics that are generally related into the same Symposium.

Regards

Ian L

Dr Ian Lambert

Geoscience Australia

Brisbane, 5-10 August, 2012

Secretary General, 34th International Geological Congress

Anybody who wishes to present a paper or even to organize a special session concerning any problem of geoethics is asked not only to contact the respective organs of the IGC but also to send a message to lidmila.nemcova@quick.cz .

This will help to better prepare the symposia as well as other agenda of the AGID in Brisbane.

NEWS ABOUT GEOETHICS IN RUSSIA

Dr. Nataliya K. Nikitina has been continuing in the process of establishing a new organization for the whole territory of Russia with the aim to bring together all geoethicists in the country. According to the latest news the Presidium of **the Russian Geological Society (Российское геологическое общество - РОСГЕО)** in its session on September 16, 2010 approved to establish within its own structure a **new independent section on GEOETHICS**. Dr. Nikitina has been authorized to prepare a written status by December 2010 and also to convene the constituent assembly of the new section with the aim to elect the chair-person and to lay down a plan of activities for 2011.

CONTACT: nikitinank@mmcintergeo.ru, phone: +7 495 287 29 52, extension number 140.

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IMPORTANT NOMINATION

Professor Jesus Martinez Frías (the Coordinator of the AGID National Chapter in Spain) has recently been elected by the Council of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) as the **Chair of the Commission on Geoscience Education, Outreach and Technology Transfer (COGE)**. This is an excellent chance to propose collaborations in the context of potential future joint activities, as IUGS/GOGE also tackles the ethical (geoethical) issues.

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CHARTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The **DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION** – mentioned in previous GEOETHICS NEWS - can be found at <http://www.naturalresourcecharter.org/>

The correspondence with the Charter Steering Committee

Dear Colleagues,

I am sending you the latest GEOETHICS NEWS (June 2010) - links to more detailed information can be found there. I have taken the liberty to include information about your Charter - I hope that various comments will be added from our network.

It would be a pleasure for us to have your representatives also in our Working Group for Geoethics - at least attending our next meeting in Příbram (October 2011) with the presentation of your Charter (with possible larger discussion and comments) and also further links to the International Geological Congress 2012.

*Looking forward to news from you,
with best greetings from Prague,
Vaclav Nemeč*

Coordinator Verity Outram:

Dear Dr. Nemeč,

Many thanks for your email and for including the Charter in your Newsletter. We look forward to hearing more from you and receiving comments from your colleagues. I hope that a representative from the Charter will be able to attend your meetings next year. Please contact us closer to the time with further details so that we can arrange this.

Kind regards,

Verity Outram

Natural Resource Charter Coordinator

Revenue Watch Institute

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CONTACTS

(for THE MINING PRIBRAM SYMPOSIUM as well as for the GEOETHICS NEWS and for the AGID Working Group on GEOETHICS):

by the e-mail (preferably) to:

lidmila.nemcova@quick.cz (convener) and marcinikova@DIAMO.CZ (secretary)

or by the mail to:

Dr. Václav Němec
K rybníčkům 17

100 00 Praha 10 - Strašnice
Czech Republic

or/and

The Mining Příbram Symposium
P.O. Box 41
261 92 Příbram
Czech Republic

or by the fax to

(++420) 318644148 - THE MINING PRIBRAM SYMPOSIUM

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Looking forward to continue in contacts with you,

Dr. Václav Němec

Vice President for Europe, AGID,
Head, the AGID Working Group for Geoethics,
Convenor of regular international sessions on Geoethics,
the Mining Příbram Symposium

QUESTIONNAIRE

To be sent by the e-mail (preferably) to lidmila.nemcova@quick.cz and marcinikova@DIAMO.CZ

Personal data:

Name:

Address:

E-mail:

Fax No. (incl. country and city codes):

Phone No. (incl. country and city codes):

Working Group for Geoethics (x – *inappropriate indications to be deleted*):

- x I am interested to continue in an active co-operation
- x I am interested only to get further GEOETHICS NEWS

AGID membership (x – *inappropriate indications to be deleted*):

- x I am already regular member of AGID
- x I want to be a corresponding AGID member
- x I want to be member of the AGID national chapter in my country
- x I am interested to initiate and coordinate a new AGID chapter in my country
- x I am recommending for the coordinator of a new AGID chapter in my country
(name, contact address):

Events in preparation - Probability of participation (x – *inappropriate indications to be deleted*):

1. **THE MINING PŘÍBRAM SYMPOSIUM 2011 (October 10-14)** - the international section on geoethics
x high x medium x low x I shall not attend
2. **The 34-th International Geological Congress – Brisbane 2012 (August 2-10)**
x high x medium x low x I shall not attend

Other special wishes, remarks, suggestions: