

2026 Call for applications to the IGGP Councils

(i) 2026 Call for candidates to the International Geoscience Programme Council

Application deadline: **5 January 2026**

The International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) serves as a knowledge hub of UNESCO to facilitate international scientific cooperation in geosciences. The IGCP mission includes promoting sustainable use of natural resources and advancing new initiatives related to Earth resources, global change, geohazards, hydrogeology, geodynamics, and geoheritage, with an emphasis on capacity building.

Since 1972, the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) has partnered with the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) to bring together thousands of Earth scientists from around the world and allowed them to benefit from the cooperative spirit generated under the umbrella of UNESCO.

The current call concerns two members of the IGCP Council, corresponding to each of the following themes: Earth Resources and Geohazards.

Interested applicants should send the following directly to the IGCP Secretariat (iggp@unesco.org):

- Completed application form and declaration in respect of the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (IGGP) Statutes, IGCP Operational Guidelines, and a declaration of 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 five years).
- A list of the ten most important publications during the past ten years.
- A cover letter explaining the motivation and added value of the candidate to the IGCP Council.

How to apply

- IGCP Council application form
- IGCP Terms of reference
- Statutes

More information

- International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme

(ii) 2026 Call for candidates to renew six members of the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council

Application deadline: **5 January 2026**

UNESCO is calling for candidates to apply for the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council.

UNESCO Global Geoparks, within the International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (IGGP), serve as a mechanism for international cooperation. With their bottom-up approach, they actively engage local communities to promote awareness of geological heritage and sustainably develop the area. Through the IGGP, these areas can apply to UNESCO, for designation as a “UNESCO Global Geopark”, drawing upon the broader mandate of the Organization.

The UNESCO Global Geoparks Council is responsible for assessing revalidated and new UNESCO Global Geopark nominations. It makes the decision on whether new applications should be forwarded to the Executive Board of UNESCO for endorsement. Furthermore, it has a key advising role to the Director-General of UNESCO on the strategy, planning and implementation of UNESCO Global Geoparks.

All interested candidates must complete the application form and declaration with respect to the IGGP Statutes and UNESCO Global Geoparks Operational Guidelines as well as the fact that there is no conflict of interest. The application should also include a detailed CV, a motivation letter, and a document of support from the Member State or the GGN presenting the candidate. **This information should be sent directly to the UNESCO International Geoscience and Geoparks Secretariat (IGGP@unesco.org) no later than 5 January 2026.**

Once the Director-General of UNESCO has appointed the new members, they will be invited by UNESCO to join the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council and take up their tasks according to the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council’s Terms of Reference.

How to apply

- Application form
- Terms of reference

More information

- International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme