



IUGS Commission on Geoscience Education, Training & Technology Transfer (COGE)

Call for IUGS-COGE/IGEO Geoscience Education Field Officers

(by Chris King, IUGS-COGE Chair)

The International Union of Geological Sciences Commission on Geoscience Education (IUGS-COGE) and the International Geoscience Education Organisation (IGEO) jointly are seeking to appoint IUGS/IGEO Geoscience Education Field Officers in countries beyond Europe with the major role of providing professional development to school teachers, who have elements of geoscience in their teaching curriculum, through interactive workshops. Priority will be given to those countries where the work of such Field Officers is likely to have most effect.

The two-day training programme for successful applicants will take place in Vienna in May 2020 combined with the training for European Geosciences Union (EGU) Field Officers.

Two IUGS/IGEO Field Officers were appointed last year (in India and Morocco), four new posts in non-European countries apart from India and Morocco, are available this year.

These positions are unpaid, but funding may be available as follows:

- a bid has been submitted to the IUGS to fund the costs of travel and accommodation in Vienna for the training of the individuals alongside the training of European Geosciences Union (EGU) Geoscience Education Field Officers;
- a second bid has been submitted to IUGS for the funding of workshop apparatus and materials.

If these bids are unsuccessful, Field Officers will receive no funding for training or for providing workshops, but nevertheless, training is a compulsory part of the appointment. If both bids to the IUGS are successful, Field Officers will receive some of the funding available to their EGU counterparts.

Individuals appointed will ideally:

- be willing to represent IUGS and IGEO amongst geoscience teachers and educators in their own country;
- be willing to liaise with a small group of IUGS/IGEO-recognised supporters in their own country;
- be fully available for work, and so are unlikely to have a full-time position;

- hold a university degree containing at least 40% broad geoscience;
- have wide experience of teaching geology, science or geography;
- be willing to respond to new teaching ideas and approaches;
- be willing to seek out and travel to conferences of school teachers of geography, science or primary-age pupils in their country and region in order to present (in their own language) interactive workshops to the conference participants;
- be willing to present training to people working in informal geoscience education, such as in geoparks, aspiring geoparks, the museum sector and other similar institutions, when funded by the institutions;
- be willing to undertake a two-day training programme in presenting interactive workshops; training will be by experienced trainers with expertise in presenting curriculum-focussed interactive professional development workshops in many countries - the training is linked with the EGU General Assembly in Vienna, Austria in May 2020;
- be willing, with guidance, to formulate interactive workshops appropriate for the curriculum in their own countries (with or without translation from English);
- be willing (if funded) to attend an annual meeting of Geoscience Education Field Officers linked with the EGU General Assembly, to provide a brief report on their activities;
- be willing to purchase locally all the apparatus and materials needed to support and maintain the workshops (expenses may be reclaimable);
- be willing to collect evaluation data from each workshop presented and to provide simple analyses of the data;
- be willing to provide information on the background and progress of geoscience education in their own countries, when prompted.

Application is by sending a motivation letter (occupying no more than a single A4 page) and a curriculum vitae (CV) to the Chair of the IUGS Commission on Geoscience Education, Chris King, at: chris@earthlearningidea.com

The motivation letter should refer to the motivation of the individual applying, the state of geoscience education in their country, and how the provision of interactive workshops is likely to have impact.

Applications will close on **Monday 20th January 2020**.

