

GeoERA Final Event

19th January 2022

Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels



Concept note:

The GeoERA ERA-Net on “Establishing the European Geological Surveys Research Area to deliver a Geological Service for Europe” was established in 2017, bringing together 45 national and regional Geological Survey Organisations from 32 European countries to collaborate in a joint geoscientific research programme, the first of its kind in Europe.

The vision of the GeoERA programme was to establish the basis for a common European geological knowledge base and encourage joint research in support of European policy priorities. The result is now visible through the interoperable and transnational data and information services on subsurface resources that have been developed, increased use of common assessment frameworks and methodologies across Europe, and an open access pan-European geological knowledge base as a platform to host the information – the European Geological Data Infrastructure (EGDI).

This has been achieved thanks to the co-funding provided by the European Commission Horizon 2020 programme and the Geological Surveys themselves, with 15 projects launched through GeoERA in 2018 with a focus on developing a more integrated and efficient management of the subsurface and its resources. The projects specifically addressed European-wide issues in topics related to raw materials, geo-energy and groundwater resources, including the development of an integrated information platform to provide open access and maintain all results and data generated.

With the projects now publishing their final results, this event will showcase their achievements and discuss the impacts this degree of pan-European collaboration by national scientific institutes can have on political, scientific and social levels, and how geoscientific knowledge and data can contribute towards the goals of the European Green Deal.

The opening **HIGH-LEVEL SESSION** on Wednesday 19th January will hear from EU and national representatives on the importance of geoscientific knowledge, data and information to policy and decision-making processes. Given that geology has no borders, we will also discuss the needs for and potential role of a future Geological Service for Europe with a panel of distinguished speakers. This will be followed by a **TOUR OF THE MUSEUM** of Natural Sciences with dedicated exhibitions that will showcase the achievements and products of all GeoERA Projects' results.

DINING AMONGST THE DINOSAURS

In honour of the 125th Anniversary of the Geological Survey of Belgium and to mark the occasion of GeoERA's conclusion, an evening dinner will be held within the Dinosaur Gallery of the Museum of Natural Sciences on Wednesday 19th January 2022. The opportunity to attend this prestigious event is open to all interested parties and will provide the opportunity to network with high-level attendees in the impressive surroundings of the Museum (attendees to include EU policy-makers, Directors of European Geological Surveys, leading experts in Earth science topics and key stakeholders from industry, academia and international institutions such as the UN).

