

Brussels, 17th June 2019

EuroGeoSurveys (EGS) – Stephanie Bricker (BGS - Chair) welcomed everyone to the first UGEG meeting at the EGS Secretariat in Brussels, Belgium. All members of the group introduced themselves and outlined their interests in the group. Wider interests and experience of the UGEG are also presented in the biographies that had been prepared by the participants. The meeting had around 24 members representing approximately 16 European Surveys.



Discussions got underway regarding the previously agreed three scientific priority topics:

- 1) *Integrated City Modelling Information (CIM)* – this topic will focus on the need to have a combined city platform for subsurface analysis. Questions regarding, collection of data and how to get data to a certain standard were raised.
- 2) *Geoenvironmental pressure in urban catchments* – the pressure topics will be defined in due course (i.e. pollution, urban heat islands). It was noted that this area is more research focussed, therefore, the topics and aims need to be made understandable for stakeholders.
- 3) *Geoscience communication for cities* – this topic will be focussing on raising awareness in cities of the subsurface and geology and subsurface infrastructure.

It was discussed that UGEG will be present at EU Smart Cities events to do some bridge building and put urban geology on the agenda! Further to this, the Suburban Action and network (<http://sub-urban.squarespace.com/>) is a great communication vehicle for UGEG. The translation and uptake of outputs from Suburban should be a focus for UGEG. The group also suggested undertaking a post-Suburban review to understand how the suburban outputs are delivering benefit to the partner cities.



Slavko Solar (Secretary General of EGS) presented the other EGS Expert Groups and Task Forces as well as the strategic vision of EGS, which is focused on the three pillars of EGS; 1) Research; 2) Infrastructure and; 3) Outreach.

Overall, the breadth and depth of skills and knowledge within the group, alongside the bountiful ideas and enthusiasm presented at the meeting made the first UGEG meeting very fruitful and successful. The group will aim to meet again in November 2019. The focus of the next meeting will be to agree on the initial programme of the work for the group in light of the finalised Priority Science Topics.

