

PanAfGeo+

Soutien panafricain aux géosciences et technologies

Call for applications PanAfGeo+ WP4 training course

WP4 – Geohazard and Environmental Management of Mines (WP4-2-EN)

- 7-12 December 2026
- Sierra Leone
- in English

MAIN CONTEXT OF PANAFGEO+

“PanAfGeo+” for “Pan-African Support to Geological Sciences and Technology, Africa-EU Partnership” is a project which supports the training of geoscientific staff from African geological surveys through the development of an innovative training programme. This programme includes the acquisition and development of important professional skills that complement existing qualifications and technical skills. The training programme is carried out by world-class geoscientific experts coming from African and European geological surveys. PanAfGeo+ is a continuation of the well-established PanAfGeo-2 Project.

PanAfGeo+ is funded by the European Commission (DG INTPA). The PanAfGeo+ Consortium is composed of the European Geological Survey (EuroGeoSurveys – EGS) and the Organisation of African Geological Surveys (OAGS), and is coordinated by the French Geological Survey (BRGM).

This program enables trainees to acquire a state-of-the-art toolkit containing methodologies and/or fieldwork techniques from eight geoscientific domains.

The “PanAfGeo Charter for Trainees” provides the general quality framework for selection of trainees who will attend the training sessions carried out in the frame of the PanAfGeo+ Project. This charter is awarded for the full duration of the PanAfGeo+ Project. Implementation of the Charter will be monitored and violation of any of its principles and commitments may lead to its withdrawal by the PanAfGeo+ project coordination.

The overall objective and impact of the PanAfGeo+ Project is to improve governance, sustainable use of African mineral resources and related infrastructure.

SESSION CONTENT « WP4 – GEOHAZARD AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF MINES »

This course is aimed at a wide range of geologists with an interest in both natural hazards, such as landslides and mass movements, earthquakes, volcanism, floods, soil erosion and desertification, as well as geological risks caused by human activity, particularly those linked to mining and the processing of mineral raw materials, which have an impact on soil, aquatic sediments, surface water and groundwater, as well as the air. The course is primarily aimed at those working in the field of applied geology, as well as geochemists specialising in environmental geology.

The course will be interactive and will comprise three days of classroom-based lectures and three days of practical fieldwork. The lectures will be led by a team of specialists from the geological surveys of Poland, Italy, Slovenia, Lithuania, Sweden and South Africa, as well as by specialists from the Geological Survey, National Minerals Agency (NMA) of Sierra Leone, the host country for the course.

Training program for the 6-day course:

- Basic principles of geotechnical engineering
- Slope stability analysis
- Geological mapping of areas prone to landslides and mass movements
- The impact of mining on the formation of landslides
- Geophysics applied to landslides
- Study of seismicity
- Introduction to environmental geochemistry
- Geochemical mapping: from global to details
- Soil contamination and its impact on human health
- Rehabilitation of mining areas to prevent environmental impacts
- Use of mining waste as raw materials

Practical workshops and field work:

During the training course, a three-day field exercise will be carried out with the support of the national geological survey. Training participants will familiarise themselves with the landslide processes observed in Sierra Leone, large-scale iron ore mining, safe operating practices, the management of post-mining and post-processing waste, and best practices to protect the natural environment. They will also carry out their own geotechnical measurements in the field, which will then be analysed in the conference room.

All training participants are required to prepare a short multimedia presentation (maximum 10 minutes) on the geological hazards present in their country, taking into account the general geological structure.



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The session is co-organised by the NMA, PGI-NRI, CGS, ISPRA, GeoZS, LGT and SGU:

- 6 days (7 - 12 December 2026)
- Sierra Leone (Freetown)
- In English
- **Deadline for applications: 18 October 2026**

Equipment:

Trainees should ensure they bring a laptop to the course, on which Microsoft Office (in particular Excel) or an equivalent software suite (OpenOffice, LibreOffice, etc.) is installed.

The specific tools required for the course will be provided by the trainer.

BACK TO THE WORK PLAN

During the course, each trainee will be required to prepare and present a work plan, namely a short-term application of their newly acquired knowledge through a relevant project proposal that can be implemented upon their return to their institution.

KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE COURSE

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- identify the risks associated with landslides and mass movements
- analyse landslide risks in the field
- carry out a slope stability assessment
- assess the potential environmental risks resulting from the extraction and processing of mineral raw materials
- plan geochemical studies to assess the impact of mining and the processing of raw materials on the natural environment
- recover value from mining waste with a view to its use as an anthropogenic deposit of mineral raw materials.

WHO CAN APPLY?

The training course is open to anyone who meets the requirements set out in the '**PanAfGeo Trainee Charter**'.

Furthermore, in order to get the most out of the training course, candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Basic knowledge of geology
- Proficiency in Excel (data processing, graph creation, formulas)



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PLEASE NOTE

The letter of commitment must be officially approved by the management of your institution. A maximum of five applications from the same geological service or the same relevant public geological institution will be accepted as part of the WP-4 selection process for the training programme.

Following the selection process, **a maximum of the two best applications** from each country will be shortlisted for the training course.

Any incomplete applications that do not include a passport number and details confirming that the **passport remains valid for at least six months after the end of the training course** will be automatically excluded. Please check the expiry date of your passport.

TRAINING COURSE FEES

The PanAfGeo+ training course 'WP4 – Geohazard and Environmental Management of Mines' is fully funded by the European Commission.

The following expenses are eligible for reimbursement:

- International travel: round-trip flight to Africa from an international airport;
- Entry visa fees payable upon receipt (please ask for a receipt in your name). All participants in the training programme from outside the ECOWAS must be prepared to pay for a visa, which costs approximately \$25.00. As stated above, this cost will be reimbursed by the WP4 Leader upon arrival;
- Accommodation, breakfast and meals during the training course.

PLEASE NOTE THAT NO INTERNSHIP ALLOWANCE OR HEALTH INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT WILL BE PAID UNDER THE PANAFGEO+ PROGRAMME.

Any arrangements regarding your journey to the international airport and your international health insurance cover (if required) must be agreed with your employer, who will sign your letter of commitment.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

In order to be considered, the application must include the following completed documents:

- 1) Application form for this training course;
- 2) Letter of commitment signed by your employer;
- 3) Motivational letter;
- 4) Copy of passport (valid for 6 months after the date of entry into Sierra Leone).

Please ensure you complete all sections of the application form included in the attachments, using your surname and a number written in Latin characters.



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After preparing these documents, please register at: After preparing these documents, please register here: <https://panafgeo-courses.eurogeosurveys.org/> and **upload the documents as four separate PDF files** (all file names must include the candidate's first name in Latin letters) before the deadline: **18 October 2026**.

The selection process will take into account geographical distribution and gender balance, in line with the objective of strengthening the skills of geoscientific staff in Africa's geological surveys. Acceptance letters will be sent approximately on October 25, 2026.

For practical enquiries regarding the training course, please contact:

- **Stanislaw Wolkowicz (PGI-NRI)** : swol@pgi.gov.pl
- **Souleymane Diop (CGS)** : sdiop@geoscience.org.za
- **Paulina Kostrz-Sikora (PGI-NRI)** : pkos@pgi.gov.pl

Information about the PanAfGeo+ programme: <http://panafgeo.eurogeosurveys.org>

Please send any questions you may have regarding PanAfGeo+ to:

- EuroGeoSurveys : panafgeo@eurogeosurveys.org
- Organisation of African Geological Surveys (OAGS): info-oags@oagsafrica.org

WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING YOUR APPLICATIONS.



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